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CANADIAN MEDAL COUNTER

0 1 5



LATE NEWS: PENNY OLEKSIAK LEADS CANADA TO ANOTHER MEDAL

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2016

High 22°C /Low 12°C Scattered thunderstorms



Calgary artist Riley Rossmo went from working at a comic book store to releasing his own comic — and is now drawing pages for new issues of Batman. AARON CHATHA/METRO

THE HERO CALGARY NEEDS

Artist joins creative team for Batman comic metroNEWS

Five people hit by lightning

STORM

Members of roofing crew among those hospitalized



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

At least one member of a Calgary roofing crew said he was hankering for a cold one after a nasty lightning strike cut his day short.

On Wednesday afternoon, EMS assessed four patients and transported two to hospital after lightning struck a roof near the airport.

And about 150 feet away they assessed another patient, a 23-year-old man, who was transported to hospital after he too was hit with electric discharge. All patients are in stable condition.

A roofing crew was finishing up their patching project in the 500 block of Palmer Road when it started to rain. Daniel Ludwig, who was part of the group, said the storm came "out of nowhere" just as they were packing up.

"There was a flash and I hit the roof deck. The other guys were on the roof deck and we hauled ass and ran," Ludwig said. He mentioned that all four were able to climb down off the roof to safety.

> **It felt like somebody cracked me in the head with a baseball bat.**
> Daniel Ludwig

Paramedics checked Ludwig and the crew out, and gave him a clean bill of health. He said he wasn't feeling foggy — more in awe of what happened.

EMS spokesman Nate Pike said it's unusual to have so many harmed by lightning at once.

"To have four people, and a fifth one nearby, that's a little surprising," Pike said.





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metro NEWS
Your essential daily news
SpaceX is developing a "ride sharing" program, to provide ways to launch small satellites

Olympic hosts rarely benefit

COSTS

Economist pens book on issues facing cities holding games



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

An American economist has penned a book that may end up on the reading lists of Calgary city councillors.

Economist Andrew Zimbalist's book "Circus Maximus: The Economic Gamble Behind Hosting the Olympics and the World Cup," explores why cities want to host big ticket events in the first place, and what often goes wrong.

Overall, he doesn't think large events like the Olympics are good for cities' economies.

"People are being sold on the idea that hosting the Olympics is good for the local economy and the truth is, it's very difficult to make something good happen," he said.

In June, Calgary City Council voted to support the Calgary Sport Tourism Authority's bid exploration process for the 2026 Winter Olympics.

Zimbalist said Calgary's position as a past host does give it one possible advantage.

"I think in the case of Calgary, you have a good share of the venues you need, and if that's the case — that makes it a much easier sell. To the extent that you have to build new venues or renovate old venues, it becomes more problematic."

Even with venues in place, it will be an expensive venture. The biggest cost-jump since 1988 is that of security. Zimbalist said security alone could cost in excess of $2 billion.



Can Calgary possibly recapture the success of the 1988 Winter Olympics if it decides to host again in 2026? Economists are poking holes in some of the projected numbers. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

> **Generally speaking, the bump in tourism after hosting doesn't come.** Andrew Zimbalist

He said after looking at games through history, he found the notion that Olympics generate tourism is misleading. Generally, people tend to avoid Olympic cities because they're afraid it will be too crowded.

"Generally speaking, the bump in tourism after hosting doesn't come. There's a few cases where it has gone up a little bit, but many cases where it hasn't grown at all."

University Of Calgary economist Trevor Tombe has similar views to that of Zimbalist.

Tombe feels the projections of increased jobs due to infrastructure construction and upgrades are flawed.

"The jobs numbers have no labour constraints whatsoever," he said. "The workers appear out of thin air whenever they're needed."

Tombe said there's no recognition at all of displacement effects on other sectors.

Zimbalist feels the IOC's structure is one of the main problems behind the ever-growing cost of the games.

"The basic structural problem with the Olympics is that you have an international monopoly, and it's unregulated — that's the IOC."

He said the IOC's business model is to hold an auction every two years to see which city will promise the most extravagant and lavish offers.

His suggestion is to find a permanent venue for the Olympics, rather than have the games move from city to city.

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CROWDFUNDING

Pride raises cash for rainbow crosswalk



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Calgary's lust for a rainbow crosswalk is just a crowdfunding campaign away from completion.

On Monday, Metro reported that without help, Calgary Pride wouldn't be splurging for a new rainbow crosswalk this year. This comes after last year's pavement painting was scraped up only a month after its inception due to impending roadwork.

"We were in a position where we needed to look at what the best impact would be, dollar for dollar, and we felt that investing in education and outreach through our new Symposium was the better use of funds than a temporary crosswalk this year" says Craig Sklenar, director of government affairs with Calgary Pride.

On Wednesday morning, Calgary Pride launched its crowdfunding campaign, and by afternoon it had quickly surpassed the $1,000 mark.

"It's an amazing outpouring of support from the community," said Sklenar. "We are excited for the interest we have received on this aspect of pride and encourage everyone to come snap a selfie with it on parade day!"

Calgary's roads department is drafting a spot for the rainbow stripes on Centre Street and Stephen Avenue Mall.

She added the project price tag is now under $3,000, not the $4,000 initially estimated. The walk will be just as big as last year's installation. But this year, the paint will be blasted away one or two weeks after pride, according to the city; the cost for removal is rolled into painting costs.





The Pokémon Go app has players going out into the real world to catch Pokémon. AARON CHATHA/METRO

Woman sues Pokémon Go creators

LAWSUIT

Players flock onto property after house designated gym



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary



Barbra-Lyn Schaeffer's home is marked as a Pokémon Gym. FACEBOOK

An Alberta woman has filed a class-action lawsuit in Calgary against Niantic, creators of Pokémon Go, after the popular app designated her home a gym.

Gyms in the world of Pokémon Go are places were players congregate and battle it out to take control of the area for their selected team. Usually, gyms are designated to churches or public buildings.

For Barbra-Lyn Schaeffer of Torrington, Alberta, players have regularly been trespassing onto her property since the game launched last month.

"We've had players trying to come over the fence, we've had people stare through our windows," explained Schaeffer. "It's unnerving, like, this is my home.

"On the weekend, someone flew a drone in our yard."

Schaeffer said her dogs just gave birth to a litter of puppies — which are constantly being startled by the influx of people.

The dogs began barking — often — and bylaw services were called due to the noise complaints.

"As soon as bylaw came, I knew this had gotten out of hand, because we're normally a very sleepy town," she said.

Schaeffer said she reached out to Niantic a couple of weeks ago to have her home removed as a gym, but has only received a canned automatic response indicating someone will get back to her. So far, no one has.

She filed a class action lawsuit with Calgary firm D'Arcy & Deacon LLP, who are looking for more people who have been adversely affected by in-game gym locations to join the suit.

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Ceci mum on credit downgrade cost

ACCOUNTABILITY

NDP Finance Minister may be keeping info back: Business



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

A heavily redacted briefing note obtained by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) indicates the NDP government may know more about the costs associated with the province's credit downgrade, but Finance Minister Joe Ceci insisted it's extremely difficult to isolate a specific cost to a credit rating action.

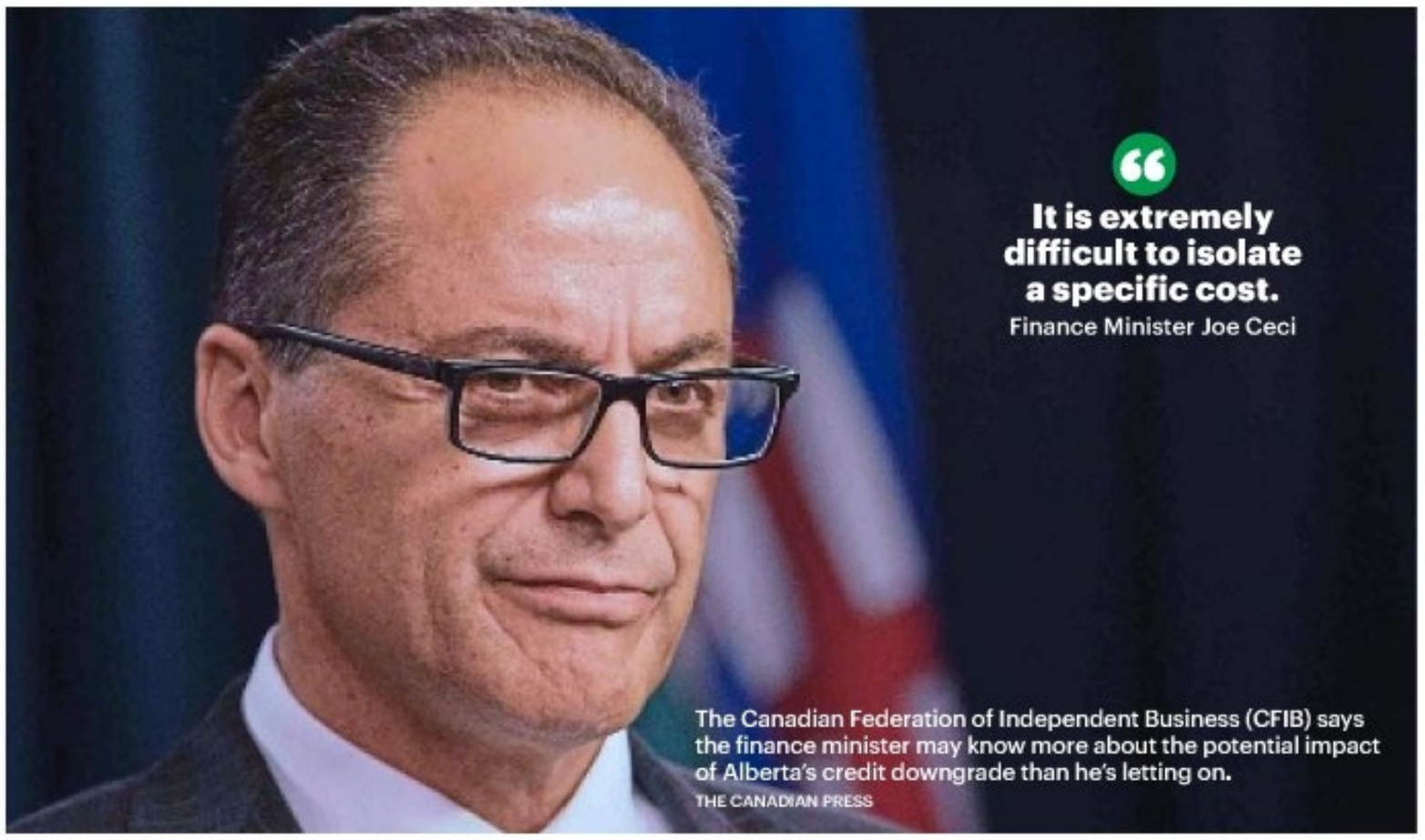
On Wednesday, the CFIB released a briefing note it obtained through FOIP, alleging Minister Ceci is aware of the financial impact of recent credit downgrades. Standard and Poor's, for example, downgraded the government from AAA to AA.

The note — an email between finance officials — asks the questions, "What is the cost of the downgrade to our credit rating?"

And, "How important are credit ratings to Alberta?"

The answers to those questions are entirely redacted, and the ministry refused to provide the answers because any advice to the minister is considered confidential.

However, Ceci said in a prepared statement that government officials advised "it is extremely difficult to isolate a specific cost to a credit rating action.



The Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) says the finance minister may know more about the potential impact of Alberta's credit downgrade than he's letting on.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

"That's because the cost of borrowing for any government is dependent on a variety of factors."

However, Metro previously reported in July the credit downgrade may cost the government at least $300 million more in interest charges over the course of 10 years, according to Alberta Party Leader Greg Clark.

At the time, Ceci's spokeswoman, Leah Holoiday, said the Alberta Party's $300-million figure is incorrect.

"It is important to note that it is less expensive for Alberta to borrow today than it was under (former Premier) Jim Prentice," Ceci said.

In a news release, CFIB Alberta Director Amber Ruddy said taxpayers deserve to know the costs of the government taking on more debt.

"Hardworking entrepreneurs are concerned Alberta's once enviable financial position is gone and no meaningful action is being taken to get it back," Ruddy said.

But Ceci said the government chose to invest and diversify the economy, instead of slash and burn, when it was confronted with the collapse in oil prices.

Single entry to 'dignify' those in need

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Working poor won't have to continuously prove poverty



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Soon, Calgary's working poor and most vulnerable won't have to continuously prove their poverty when beginning the long and arduous process of looking for a roof over their head.

The city is looking for a consulting firm to plan a potential rollout for single entry into the city's affordable housing market — a step towards the housing goals section of Calgary's "10-Year Plan to End Homelessness in Calgary."

This will allow those looking for an affordable home to undergo one intake process.

"This really is a big deal and something that we've desired to get to and recognized that we need to get to for a long time," said Coun. Brian Pincott. "Single point of entry makes it better for everybody, but in particular for people who need to access services."

Pincott said it's not just about getting the housing on board, but all city services, to ensure Calgary's citizens maintain dignity.

The Calgary Homeless Foundation has been seeing the results of their own single entry intake system for some time. According to Natalie Noble, the brains behind their coordinated access and assessment intake, which concentrates on both services and housing, it's not only a huge help to clients, but provides a wealth of information and data for their group.

Calgary has over 38,000 renters who could use affordable housing, but only about 3 per cent of Calgary's housing is affordable. And there are currently over 4,000 on waiting lists for affordable units.

In a report before council June, findings were staggering, showing that Calgary would have to add 15,000 units today and 25,000 units by 2028 to catch up to the national benchmark for affordable housing.



Coun. Brian Pincott. METRO FILE

ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

NDP eyes taxpayer-funded rebate



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

The Alberta NDP is proposing taxpayers foot half the bill for parties and individual campaigns that receive at least 10 per cent of the vote, a move that opposition party members say Albertans don't want, given the poor economic climate.

At a meeting of the legislature's special ethics and accountability committee on Wednesday, Edmonton-Ellerslie MLA Rod Loyola introduced a recommendation that would rebate political parties and candidates, who receive 10 per cent of votes, 50 per cent of their campaign expenses.

The proposal will result in millions of public money paying for the campaign expenses of political parties.

During the committee meeting, Richard Starke, PC MLA for Vermilion-Lloydminster, said the NDP's move is unnecessary given the province's poor financial situation.

"Albertans have zero appetite to subsidize parties," Starke said. "They (the NDP government) will see a firestorm across this province like they've never seen before."

> **Albertans have zero appetite to subsidize parties.**
> Richard Starke

The proposal is part of the committee's examination of potential changes to elections laws, conflict of interest legislation and whistle blower legislation. It's to submit a report by October, when the house resumes.

Jessica Littlewood, NDP MLA for Fort Saskatchewan Vegreville, defended the proposal, saying it's part of an overall package that makes Alberta's democratic process more fair.

She said the rebate proposal will let small parties, or campaigns, be more engaged as it helps them get out their ideas.



NDP MLA Rod Loyola.
COURTESY GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

"It'll make for a healthy democracy," she said, adding the federal government and Saskatchewan have similar laws.

The committee also passed a recommendation that will see a spending cap of $70,000 for most provincial ridings and $80,000 for northern constituencies.

Those caps were increased by $30,000 each, after Graham Sucha, NDP MLA for Calgary Shaw initially proposed a cap of $40,000 for most ridings and $50,000 for northern constituencies.

Littlewood said the change in the cap amount came after MLA's realized it takes a lot of dough to fund a campaign.

In her riding, for example, she said larger campaign signs are needed as smaller ones look like "post cards" when driving along the highway.

Regarding the rebate recommendation, Wildrose House Leader Nathan Cooper said the NDP should scrap the plan.

"The very last concern of people in my riding and across Alberta is how to further use tax dollars to finance political parties and election campaigns," he said. "This is absolutely the wrong time for MLAs to be having the debate."



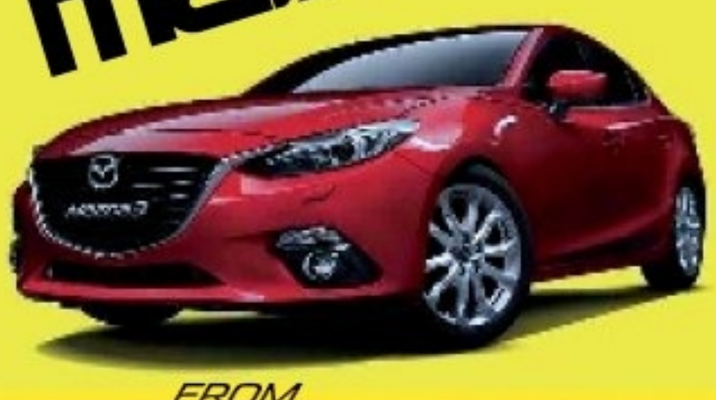
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Animal sedative big in illegal drug trade

ADDICTIONS

Expert says carfentanil may be mixed with other narcotics



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

An Alberta addictions specialist says patients may or may not know they're using carfentanil, even though many are aware the opioid supply is unpredictable.

On Wednesday, the Calgary police, Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), and RCMP announced it seized enough carfentanil to produce up to 50 million potential fatal doses, after conducting a joint investigation.

Dr. Hakique Virani, medical director at Metro City Medical Clinic in Edmonton and assistant professor at the University of Alberta, said he's relatively confident carfentanil is already entrenched in the illicit opioid supply.

He said patients are so desperate in the throes of addiction that they use whatever they can get their hands on.

"This trend in illicit opioid trafficking is as frightening as it was predictable," Virani said. "Now they've turned their attention to other known fentanyl analogs that produce effects in infinitesimal quantities."

CBSA spokeswoman Ana Maria Coutou said officers intercepted the delivery to Calgary when it seized a Chinese package that was labelled as printer accessories.

When officers inspected the package, they noticed an unknown white substance, she said, adding analysts later determined it was carfentanil after they inspected it in a CBSA lab.

> **It is scary that people may be abusing that.**
> Stephanie Borgland

Carfentanil, which RCMP say is 100 times stronger than fentanyl, has an extremely high overdose risk, according to Stephanie Borgland, an associate professor of pharmacology at the University of Calgary.

"It is scary that people may be abusing that," she said.

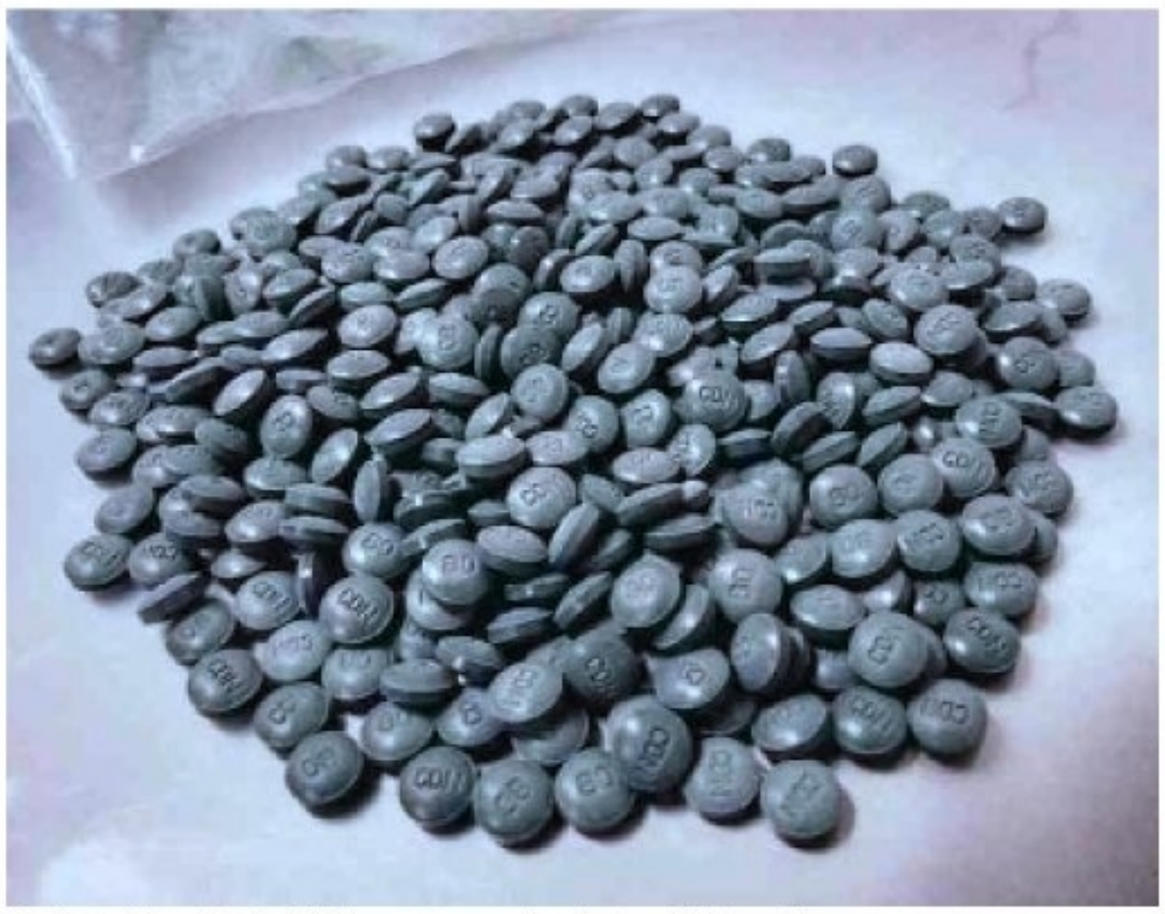
A minute dose of 20 micrograms would be fatal to the average person, RCMP said.

Virani said he's worried the illicit drug market will find ways to create more opioids, like carfentanil, to meet high demand as people's addictions are being left untreated.

"In the meantime, people die," he said.

Calgarian Joshua Wrenn, 24, has been charged with one count of importation of a controlled substance and one count of possession for the purpose of trafficking a controlled substance.

He will appear in court on Oct. 19.



Carfentanil is said to be 100 times stronger than fentanyl (pictured). THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

DIFFERENCES: CARFENTANIL VS. W-18

Both have been said to be 100 times stronger than fentanyl, but only one is truly an opioid, according to research.

Earlier this year, Calgary police caused quite the stir when it and other agencies said W-18 is an opioid that's 100 times stronger than fentanyl.

Recent research out of the United States has debunked the claim that W-18 is an opioid, as it found it didn't trigger any opioid receptors, but could give you an arrhythmia.

But now attention has turned to carfentanil, which is indeed an opioid that's 100 times stronger than fentanyl, according to research papers and Stephanie Borgland, an assistant professor in pharmacology at the University of Calgary.

"There's an extremely narrow therapeutic window," she said. "It's used in veterinary medicine because of the overdose risk for humans."

The difference in W-18 and carfentanil can also be found in its drug classification history. Carfentanil is a scheduled/controlled substance while W-18 wasn't when it initially hit the streets.

But one thing they do have in common is their low-detection rates. Because police consider them to be so potent, only extremely trace amounts, if any, can be found in people's blood when mixed with other drugs.

JEREMY SIMES/FOR METRO

ANIMALS

Veterinarians use the drug with care



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Carfentanil isn't just any animal sedative.

According to research papers from the 1980s it can immobilize a 15,000 pound African Elephant for over an hour, often used with another agent at the ready to pull the animal out of sedation.

At the Edmonton Valley Zoo, the drug isn't kept on site because of its dangerous potency.

According to a spokeswoman from the City of Edmonton, there are protocols in place for when it does need to be administered.

In other places the veterinarian worked, outside of the Edmonton zoo, she noted the drug would be brought in only if it was needed because it was "explosive" to work with.

In Calgary, the zoo had no response when asked about how this drug is used with their on-hand veterinarian team.



Victim Shannon Madill, left, and her older sister Erin on vacation in Australia together. CONTRIBUTED

Sister hopes to get justice

COURT

Sibling of slain woman gives testimony at murder trial



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

The sister of a slain Calgary woman who is a witness in her murder trial hopes she is helping get justice for her sister.

Erin Madill is the sister of Shannon Madill, who was allegedly murdered by husband Joshua Burgess and whose body is said to have been concealed by him in the couple's backyard. Erin is now a witness in Burgess's trial, which is currently in the preliminary phase.

"It was really, really hard to testify — probably one of the hardest things I've ever done," she said.

Burgess was charged with second-degree murder in the death of Shannon in June of 2015, after she'd been missing for nearly seven months.

Erin said because she's a witness, she isn't allowed to be in the courtroom during the proceedings, but said her parents will be there every day.

"I wish I were able to be there for my family," she said. "But, at least I'm still doing something to help her, and I know eventually I will be able to have all the information about what happened to my sister. "

Not only is Erin not allowed to be in the courtroom, but she and her parents aren't supposed to discuss the trial.

"It does make it quite difficult," she said. "Luckily I have broad strokes at this point in time, but it's hard to not be able to discuss what's going on or our concerns of how things could end up."

> **It was really hard to testify ... one of the hardest things I've ever done.**
> Erin Madill

Erin said it's strange to see Burgess sitting in what she calls "the penalty box" in the courtroom.

"It's almost like it's two different people, it's like the person that I knew and loved and then this stranger that I can't fathom did something terrible to my sister," she said.

Erin said she hopes her sister is remembered for who she was, not how she died.

"She was a sweet, hilarious kid who could've done so much with her life, but unfortunately we'll never get the chance to see just how far she could have gone," she said.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Breeder charged after 89 cats seized



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

A pet breeder has been charged after humane society officers removed 89 Maine Coon cats from a Calgary home.

Calgary Humane Society investigators were dispatched to look into an animal hoarding situation last April.

"When we entered the home, it was evident pretty quickly, just from appearance, the cats were pretty sick," said Brad Nichols, senior manager of animal cruelty investigations.

"The home was kind of what you'd expect with 90 cats running around it."

The cats were removed due to medical concerns. After they were administered health exams, it was clear a large portion of them were extremely ill. Nichols said in hoarding situations, most of the cats are usually feral and not able to be adopted.

In fact, adding in medical concerns, usually only 10 per cent of cats saved from this type of situation actually make it to the adoption phase.

In this case, one-third of the 89 cats were able to make it to adoption, and Nichols said virtually all of them have now found loving homes.

"On the other end of it, of course, are the two-thirds of cats who were so ill they had to be euthanized," Nichols said.

Ruth Sogz, 57, has been charged under Alberta's Animal Protection Act with permitting animals to be in distress.

Nichols said it's important that pet owners know their limits concerning space, time and finances.

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Rio experience 'amazing'

RIO2016

Volleyball duo talk on Olympic experience



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary



Rudy Verhoeff takes flight in celebration of team Canada's win against the United States. FIVB

The Canadian men's volleyball has already made history — they're the first men's volleyball team representing Canada at the summer Olympics in 24 years.

The unlikely heroes, who're ranked 10th, began their Olympic journey with an exciting win against the fifth-ranked United States team. Metro spoke with the team's two Calgarians about what the win meant to them.

"It was amazing to beat USA," said 27-year-old Rudy Verhoeff.

"I have only beaten them once before but we knew that if we brought out a good fight that things would be close and in the end we made a few more plays than they did."

For 27-year-old Graham Vigrass, he said the win bolstered the team confidence.

"We enjoyed it and reassured to ourselves that we can compete with the best," he said.

Heading into their next game against number-one-ranked host team, Brazil, Verhoeff said he was excited to play in a "hostile environment."

"Volleyball is supposed to be played in these loud and energetic gyms. It's not a sport like golf or tennis," he said.

"Maybe Canadian fans will see that it is OK to boo the other team during their serve."

> "Representing Canada is always an honor. To do it here at the Olympics is amazing— I hope that we can inspire the next generation of young volleyball players. Rudy Verhoeff

Unfortunately the team lost the match, three sets to one. Vigrass said they had too many execution errors—which can cost you when you play against the tops teams.

"We played hard against one of the top teams in the world, we didn't play our best game, but we did a lot of good things, which we can take forward to the next match Thursday against France," he said. Verhoeff said it's clear Calgary has an elite volleyball community that has helped prepare them for the Olympics.

"I think in this environment you have to really push to become the best," he said. "We always had major competition just within Calgary and even greater within Alberta — you can see with Graham, Jay, Blair, and I all growing up in the same competitive environment."

Canada will take on France Thursday, Mexico Saturday and Egypt on Monday. No matter what the outcome, Verhoeff said he hopes they have made an impact on generations to come.

"Representing Canada is always an honor," he said. "To do it here at the Olympics is amazing— I hope that we can inspire the next generation of young volleyball players."

VOLLEYBALL

How to raise an Olympian



Mathew Silver
For Metro | Calgary

Ben Saxton's journey to the Olympics started early.

While he and partner Chaim Schalk are fresh off a win in beach volleyball against the mighty Brazilians in Rio, his story spans back to 1994.

That's the year his father, Don Saxton, purchased an old tennis bubble and converted it into a volleyball haven with indoor and sand courts. The complex would eventually be known as The Volleydome.

This is where Ben spent most of his childhood, running from court to court playing "pepper" – volleyball parlance for hitting the ball back and forth – with some of the older players.

His father admits that Ben showed an early aptitude for the sport."By the time he was 12 he was one of the most skilled guys in the province," said Don.

Ben could have easily followed in his father's footsteps – Don represented Canada in indoor volleyball at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics – but it was on a trip to California when he was just 14 where Ben realized that he was a beach player and he was going to the Olympics.

Even his father was surprised.

"I always encouraged him to do just that, but was actually a little surprised when this kid from Canada actually put himself in that position a few years later."

Saxton and Schalk currently hold a 1-1 record, and take on Cuba Thursday at 8am.





Female athletes 'don't owe anyone pretty'

WEIGHTLIFTING

Group wants people to focus on their ability, not their looks



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton



Gaïa Willis, Darron Bunt, Angelina Van Ryswyk and Beans Ludlow are all competitive powerlifters who are fed up with those who focus on the appearance of female athletes. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

"This is the unsexiest sport."

As sports go, power lifting isn't the most attractive, said competitive lifter Beans Ludlow.

"We literally dress in a potato sack and, like, have our gut pressed against our belt with a tomato puffer fish face," she said.

Which is why Ludlow and group of female lifters in Edmonton are increasingly bewildered—not to mention frustrated—by what they say is social media's growing fixation with the looks of women who lift big weight.

So Ludlow, along with her training partners Angelina Van Ryswyk, Gaïa Willis and Darron Bunt, have created an online community that celebrates the sport they love, the way they see it.

Since launching in May, This is Female Powerlifting has gained almost 3,000 followers on Instagram, and their new website launches soon.

Powerlifting clearly isn't for the faint of heart—or back, arms, or anything really. It's a strength sport where competitors do three lifts: squats, bench press and deadlifts.

Collectively, the group has competed provincially, nationally and internationally, and all say they fell in love with the sport because it celebrates strength, something they've tried to reflect in the new project.

"It's the successes, it's the failures, it's celebrating everything about the sport and things women are doing," Bunt said.

Noticeably absent are hashtags like #bootygains and #peachgang that have become popular among some in the lifting community.

Instead, they've swapped in a few invented hashtags of their own, like #liftugly and #wedontoweanyonepretty.

This isn't a quibble about whether or not lifters are attractive though — it's that attractiveness is beside the point.

Bunt points out that the Olympics have made it clear that female athletes are still judged differently than their male peers — with recent stories highlighting female Olympians looks, husbands or clothing.

"I think we're getting better at having it be acceptable for women to be strong, but where we're still tripping is on the physical aesthetic," Van Ryswyk added. "Not only do you have to be strong and fit, but you need abs, shoulder caps and to look nice in a bikini."

All are quick to point out that they're proud of the bodies they've built, and they celebrate any athlete who wants to show off, with booty shots or otherwise.

They just don't want looks to be the main attraction, or newcomers to the sport to feel like they've got to glam up to fit in.

"I don't care what you look like," Bunt said. "I just want to see you lift."

IN BRIEF

Arrest made after body found near rodeo grounds

RCMP have arrested one person and are looking for a second in the death of a 21-year-old man in southern Alberta.

The body of Kori Wesley, a resident of the Stoney Nakoda First Nation, was found last Sunday afternoon near the Chiniki Rodeo Grounds, west of Calgary.

A 20-year-old man from the same First Nation was arrested without incident the same day.

Tylen Tray Poucette has been remanded in custody on a charge of second-degree murder and will appear in court again on Aug. 16 in Cochrane provincial court.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ANIMAL ASSISTANCE

Service dogs honoured



Mathew Silver
For Metro | Calgary

A curious crowd gathered at City Hall on Wednesday, but it had to do with puppies, not politics.

Dogs with Wings, a society dedicated to matching assistance dogs with human partners who suffer from debilitating physical and mental disabilities, celebrated all of their hardworking canines to the delight of passers-by.

The event began with a proclamation from City Council – August 7 to 14 was declared International Dog Assistance Week in Calgary.

The week is intended to recognize the hardworking assistance dogs that transform the lives of their human partners who suffer from debilitating physical and mental disabilities.

After the proclamation, the pups showed off some basic skills — everything from loose-leash walking to 'sits' and 'stays.' The dogs are taught these skills by foster parents and eventually matched with a human partner based on their natural aptitudes.

Once their skills are identified, it's up to over 300 volunteers in the province of Alberta to help match the dogs with human companions, says Kim Jeannotte, the puppy leader of the Calgary program.

This was the 20th anniversary of International Assistance Dog Week.



Calgary service dogs were celebrated during International Assistance Dog Week. MATHEW SILVER/FOR METRO

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1



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1 Riley Rossmo works on the pages of Batman: Night of the Monster Men in his home studio.
AARON CHATHA/METRO

2 Rossmo re-imagines his Batman, but with a Metro News logo in place of the Bat symbol. Either way, he's still fighting for justice.
COURTESY RILEY ROSSMO

3 Rossmo, like many other pro artists, sketches in a special blue pencil that's easy to remove after inking and scanning. Look for the final version of this image in the Fall.
AARON CHATHA / METRO

Former comic clerk offers up visions of Gotham in new gig

ILLUSTRATION

Artist takes on drawing the Dark Knight for DC Comics



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Riley Rossmo chases the dissatisfaction in his work.

The Calgary artist went from working behind the counter at Another Dimension Comics almost a decade ago to drawing his first two issues of Batman, due out this fall.

It's a dream for anyone caught doodling behind the counter, but Rossmo is far from satisfied.

Let's pull back the pages a bit to the first day Rossmo seemingly hit the big time: a publisher had agreed to put out his first book, and they sent a box of the comics to his front door. It felt cool for a moment.

"I took one out, I touched it — and all I could see was mistakes," he recalled.

These mornings he wakes up and draws Batman. And every time he's satisfied with a layout, he wants to work harder on his marks — or if the marks are up to par, it's his brush stroke.

And if a page actually looks perfect at the end of the day? He's already moving on to the great ideas he has for tomorrow.

But it's the special commitment that lead the artist from Proof, Cowboy Ninja Viking and DC's own Hellblazer to champion the look and feel of the Dark Knight.

Batman: Night of the Monster Men

"I don't feel like I'm mainstream enough to be working on a Batman book, but they really liked my monster designs," Rossmo laughed.

The mega event involves a number of different Bat-family comic book titles, including Nightwing and Batwoman. They'll all come together, led by Batman, to battle kaiju — or giant monsters. Essentially, Godzilla-esque creatures crush buildings while the regular-sized Bat-family takes them on.

Rossmo designed all the monsters, and the look and feel of the comic event, in addition to drawing out two issues.

"Batman: Night of the Monster Men could not exist without the twisted creative mind of Riley Rossmo," said writer Steve Orlando. "We set out to show people things they've never seen before with a bat symbol — and Riley is doing his best work to deliver that and blow your faces off."

James Tynion IV, who worked with Rossmo on Hellblazer (a series which was adapted into a 2005 Keanu Reeves movie and 2014 TV show) said Rossmo's art was a force of nature, grounded with a sharp gritted edge that's "downright frightening."

> Riley is doing his best work to deliver ... and blow your faces off.
> Steve Orlando, writer

Rossmo's put a ton of thought into his version of The Dark Knight — he likes Frank Miller's smaller ears on the Batman mask, but the body frame is closer to artist Neal Adams. But overall, he really enjoys drawing Batwoman.

The Process

When working with big ideas, Rossmo starts small. He starts with a thumbnail sketch, done in pencil, of what he wants the art to look like. Then he scans and blows it up to a 3 x 5 image — about half the size of a printed page.

He tightens his details, then scans it again, blows it up to full size, digitally adds in backgrounds, prints the whole thing off and inks it in with a brush and technical pens before one more final scan to add digital effects.

It's a ton of work, but once a week he still has time to holster the Bat-brush back into his utility belt and visit Another Dimension for his weekly dose of comic books.

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UN Secretary-General visiting

HONOUR

Ban Ki-moon's appearance in city elicits thrills, security

Security is expected to be tight when the secretary general of the United Nations speaks in Calgary Friday night.

Ban Ki-moon is expected to meet with Alberta government officials in the afternoon before speaking to about 350 students at the University of Calgary in the evening.

"I think we got a call about three-and-a-half weeks ago. We found out he was coming through. We worked very closely with our provincial government and they eventually selected us for the spot that he would come to speak," said Dru Marshall, provost and vice-president academic, at the University of Calgary.

"We're very excited. We jumped at the chance to host him."

Marshall said the subject of the speech is "A call to youth: the UN in Canada in a changing world." It also happens to tie in with International Youth Day.

"We had three topics for him and of course one of them was youth leadership. He jumped at that because it is International Youth Day and that sort of set the stage for other things that we're doing," she said.

"It's an invited talk. He wanted the invitation list to be limited to the university community and so we really focused in on students."

Marshall said there was no difficulty finding enough students to attend the talk. The secretary general, who is from South Korea, has headed up the UN since 2007 and will be stepping down after this year.

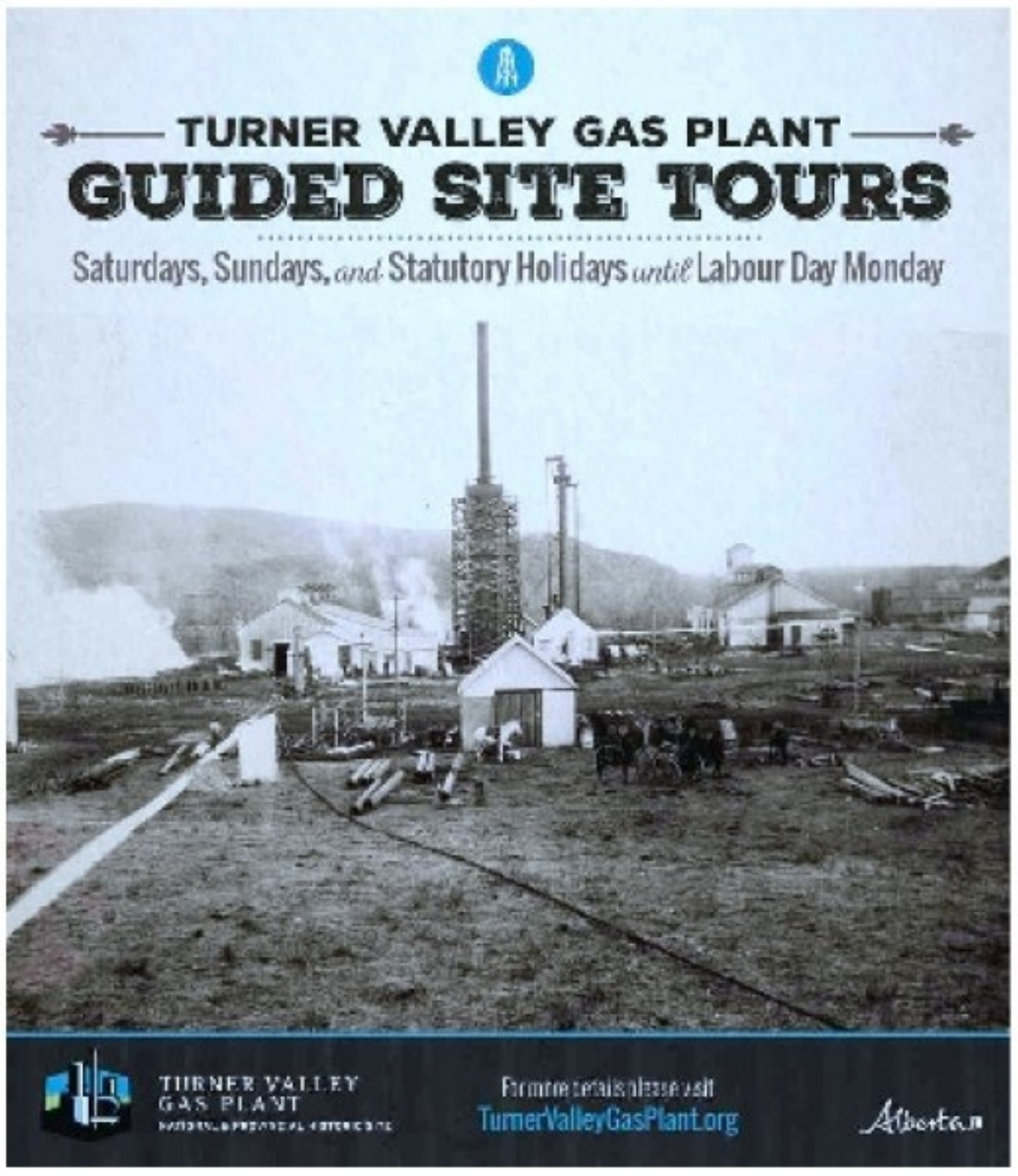
Marshall said there will be no shortage of security on hand for the event which will include a brief talk by the international world leader, as well as a question and answer session with students.

"There's huge security considerations around this and I think that's why they've asked us to keep close control of the venue," said Marshall.

"I think this will be a highly secure event." THE CANADIAN PRESS



UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon will address 350 people at the University of Calgary on Friday night. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





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Libs' costly scramble

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Emails reveal rush to get minister home for C-14 vote

Federal officials scrambled to book costly last-minute flights in order to bring a cabinet minister back to Ottawa earlier this year in time for an expected vote on the government's controversial doctor-assisted dying bill.



Marie-Claude Bibeau. THE CANADIAN PRESS

International Development Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau was attending a conference in Copenhagen when officials at Global Affairs Canada got word the Liberals wanted her back in the House of Commons — and quickly.

"We just received a call from the whip's office," a staffer wrote to Bibeau and his colleagues in one of several emails obtained by The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act.

"The Minister needs to be back in Ottawa for a vote tomorrow afternoon. She is to be back for 3 p.m.," he wrote in the May 17 email, sent at 4:53 p.m.

He added: "I am not joking."

The mad dash from around the world followed an embarrassing near-miss for the Liberals, when the New Democrats and Conservatives caught chief government whip Andrew Leslie off guard with a surprise vote on an Air Canada bill.

That prompted Leslie and his office to pull out all the stops to avoid being similarly caught out when it came time to vote on Bill C-14, the controversial assisted-suicide legislation — including calling a handful of cabinet ministers home from overseas trips.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Killer whales and humpback whales off Jordan River, B.C., west of Victoria, B.C. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT

VANCOUVER

Whale watchers see battle of behemoths

A whale watching association says a battle between some of the largest creatures in the seas off the coast of British Columbia appeared to end with the human equivalent of fist waving and name calling, although they can't be sure of the outcome.

Several whale watching boats at the western edge of the Salish Sea off Jordan River on Vancouver Island spotted a group of transient orcas surrounding two adult humpback whales and a calf on Sunday.

Mark Malleson, a whale watching captain and marine researcher, witnessed the fight.

He says in a news release issued by the Pacific Whale Watch Association that encounters between humpbacks and transient orcas, also known as Bigg's killer whales, rarely result in a kill.

Transient orcas eat marine mammals but Malleson says it seems as if the species "just likes bugging" the much bigger humpbacks.

Naturalist Valerie Shore also saw the standoff from another boat and says most of the action happened below the surface but there was huffing, puffing and occasional swipes of their tails from the humpbacks as they blocked access to the calf.

She says the adult humpbacks finally chased off the orcas, but she and her crew suspect the calf may have suffered a torn tail, although they couldn't get close enough to confirm it. "We saw what we thought at the time was a large blood burst," Shore says in the release from the association.

Malleson radioed later to say the burst was whale feces, which Shore speculates may have been a defence mechanism or the response of a very frightened young humpback.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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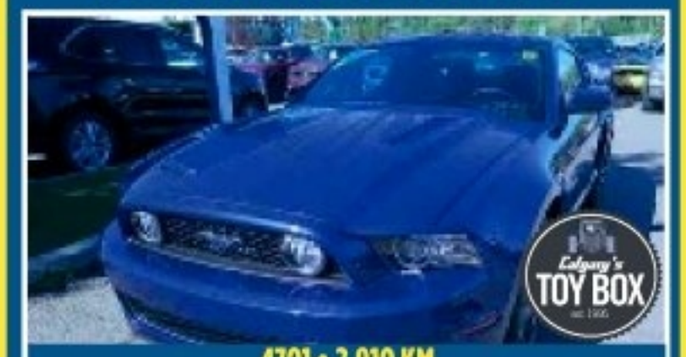
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Terrorism suspect left dead

ONTARIO

Man was under court order to not associate with extremists

Terrorism suspect Aaron Driver was killed in a confrontation with police in the Southern Ontario town of Strathroy.

Driver, originally from Winnipeg and in his mid-20s, was under a court order not to associate with any terrorist organization, including Daesh.

The RCMP said it received credible information of a potential terrorist threat earlier Wednesday.

A suspect was identified and the "proper course of action has been taken" to ensure that there was no danger to the public, the carefully worded statement said.

In February, Driver's lawyer and the Crown agreed to a peace bond stating there are "reasonable grounds to fear that he may participate, contribute directly or indirectly in the activity of a terrorist group."

In Strathroy, resident Irene Lee said late Wednesday that police had been camped out near her parents' convenience store since about 4:15 p.m.

At about that time, she said she was at her home close by when she heard a loud noise. She said shortly afterward, a police officer came by to tell residents to stay inside their homes.

Lee said there were up to 25 marked and unmarked cruisers outside a home on Park Street, which is right behind her parents' store. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RESPONSE

- Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale said he had spoken to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau about the events "to confirm that public safety has been and continues to be properly protected."
- The RCMP, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service and other police and security agencies were involved in the operations, he added.
- Taking all relevant information into account, the national terrorism threat level for Canada remains at "medium" where it has stood since the fall of 2014, Goodale added.



Dayna Denman holds Rex the pot-bellied pig. A pig with a profile is getting even more attention in Prince George, B.C., as he recovers from a severe mauling by two neighbourhood dogs. DAYNA DENMAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

PRINCE GEORGE, B.C.

Beloved pig recovering from dog attack

A pig with a profile is getting even more attention in Prince George, B.C., as he recovers from a mauling by two neighbourhood dogs.

Rex is a miniature pot-bellied pig who entertains at children's birthday parties, but he was hospitalized after being attacked on July 18.

His owner, Dayna Denman, 23, said there's a twist that makes the pig's tale more traumatizing for her.

"He wouldn't have flinched if they came up to him, because he's so used to dogs," she said. "He thinks he's a dog."

Denman rushed from work to her two-hectare property in search of Rex after her boyfriend phoned to say the pig wasn't responding to the rattling of his food bowl. Then she received a text from a neighbour and found her beloved pet bleeding badly.

> He's got the heart of a lion. He definitely has a huge will to live.
> Jodyne Green

"(Rex) was down there in thick bush. He was not doing well at all. He was in shock. He was basically lying there to die," she said.

The pig's condition peaked and then plummeted. The vets told Denman that Rex's tendons in his legs had ruptured and they might have to put him down.

Veterinarian Jodyne Green said Rex suffered extensive puncture wounds and lacerations all over his body. His ears could not be saved. She said the vets were swayed against euthanasia when the pig suddenly climbed into Denman's lap.

"He's got the heart of a lion," said Green, who owns Green Mobile Veterinary Services. "He definitely has a huge will to live."

Green said they started muscle rehabilitation and teaching Rex a new method for walking. He was put in a splint. They built him a scooter so he could be propped upright.

Last week, the vets revised the pig's prognosis and predicted he would survive.

Denman's goal is for him to resume his volunteer work with the humane society.

People who have heard the tale around town have been compassionate, said Denman. Some have even made anonymous donations to help pay the vet bills. THE CANADIAN PRESS



CIVIL LIBERTIES

Vancouver police admit to mass-surveillance device

The Vancouver Police Department's revelation that it has indeed employed a controversial mass-surveillance device despite initially insisting it had no documentation of its use raises serious legal and public accountability concerns, a civil liberties group says.

The department said it received help from the RCMP in using a so-called StingRay device during a 2007 investigation in an attempt to track down the cellphone of a person they believed had been abducted.

The admission comes after a protracted back-and-forth battle waged by both the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association and PIVOT Legal Society into whether the Vancouver police have ever used StingRay, an intelligence-gathering tool widely adopted in the United States.

StingRay mimics a cellular communications tower to trick all mobile devices within range to connect to it, giving police text and audio communication as well as the device's location.

Micheal Vonn of the B.C. Civil Liberties Association said it was only after a freedom-of-information request, direct questioning and the prospect of an inquiry by the province's privacy commissioner that the Vancouver police were willingly disclosed any information.

"This certainly raises a number of further questions," Vonn said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RESPONSE

Const. Brian Montague of the Vancouver police said in an email Wednesday that context is important.

- In the 2007 case, the device was used in "exigent circumstances" to investigate the disappearance of a person in a case that has since become a possible homicide, he said.
- "It is disappointing to see the BCCLA failed to provide any context regarding that investigation, (and) continues their attempt at public fear mongering," he wrote.





Green Party Leader Elizabeth May. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

ENVIRONMENT

Offer rebates for electric cars: Officials

Cash rebates and tax incentives are the best way to convince Canadians to buy electric cars as part of an overall government strategy to cut greenhouse gas emissions, federal officials conclude in a report to Transport Minister Marc Garneau.

The comments from the department's policy group are in response to a report by Electric Mobility Canada, which made a number of recommendations in March to accelerate the deployment of electric vehicles (EVs) across the country.

The not-for-profit group's report called for purchase rebates of up to $3,000 per vehicle sold, on top of provincial rebates amounting to a minimum of $3,000.

In documents obtained by The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act, officials noted that nearly all sales of electric vehicles in Canada — 95 per cent — were completed in provinces that offered EV purchase rebates.

Applying a federal cash incentive in provinces where rebates already exist would not only spur new sales, but would also encourage other jurisdictions to introduce their own incentive programs, they concluded.

British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec currently offer incentives to buyers of so-called zero-emission vehicles.

The Liberal government hasn't said whether it's considering offering cash incentives to buyers, but it has been hearing from proponents of the idea.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHARGED UP

Ontario will partner with companies to build 500 charging stations. Also:

- **The feds are offering to subsidize workplace** fuelling stations to the tune of $62.5M
- **There are 20,000** plug-in electric cars on the country's highways

Israel boycott reconsidered

CONTROVERSY

Green Party leader may ask members to rethink support

Elizabeth May says Green Party members might soon be asked to reconsider their controversial support of a movement to boycott Israel — provided she herself decides to stay on as their leader.

May said there could be "a trigger to hold a special meeting of all members" for another look at a resolution that she believes does not reflect the party's genuine will.

The only other opportunities to revisit the resolution — which she firmly opposes — would be the party's next meeting in 2018 or at a leadership convention, should she opt to step down later this month, May said Wednesday.

Whatever her decision, there will be an emergency meeting of the party council to discuss next steps, likely Aug. 21 or 22, she added.

May said she must consider what is best for herself, for the party and for the broader issue of security in the Middle East.

Regardless, she plans to seek re-election as a Green candidate in the next general election. "My constituency is my top priority," she said.

"I am going to run again in 2019."

At the party's convention last week, members voted to express support for the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against Israel. Jewish groups swiftly denounced the move, which has divided the party.

May blames the resolution's passage on the process — brief statements followed by a majority vote rather than the party's time-honoured approach of a concerted effort to arrive at consensus.

"I think many of the members — I'm getting a lot of emails — are very upset that this motion managed to go through at the convention," she said.

> **We can devise our own policy.**
> Elizabeth May, Green Party of Canada

The party supports a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict that addresses the security, economic and religious concerns of both sides.

May opposes associating the party with the so-called BDS, a civil-society movement that is "widely perceived — fairly or unfairly" as anti-Semitic, she said.

"We're the Green Party of Canada and we can devise our own policy."

Moreover, the debate over Israel is distracting the Greens from action on climate change, electoral reform and stopping the Trans-Pacific Partnership, she said.

"We have clear priorities, and this isn't one of them."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Man scales Trump Tower

NEW YORK

Climber with suction cups leads police on chase

A man spent more than 2 1/2 hours scaling the glass facade of Trump Tower on Wednesday using large suction cups, climbing as high as the 21st floor before police officers grabbed him and hauled him to safety through an open window.

The climber had a backpack and used a harness and rope stirrups to fasten himself to the side of the 58-storey Manhattan skyscraper.

Police officers smashed windows and broke through a ventilation duct in an attempt to block his progress. Officers also lowered themselves toward him using a window washer's platform.

For a long time, the climber played a slow-motion cat-and-mouse game with his would-be rescuers, keeping his distance by methodically working his way back and forth across the facade and angled corners of the building. When would-be rescuers smashed a window above him, he ducked to avoid big shards of glass that fell.



A man scales the all-glass face of the 58-storey Trump Tower in New York, Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The chase ended dramatically just after 6:30 p.m.

As a crowd gasped on the street below, two officers leaning far out of a window frame where the glass was removed grabbed the climber's arm and backpack, and in a flash yanked him from his dangling stirrups.

He went through the opening head first, his legs pointed skyward.

Police had deployed large, inflated crash pads at the scene, but it was unclear whether they were positioned close enough to where the man was climbing to offer any protection if he fell.

The tower is headquarters to Donald Trump's Republican presidential campaign and his business empire. Trump also lives there, though he was in Virginia in the afternoon and was headed to Florida for an evening event.

A Trump campaign spokeswoman didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

"This man performed a ridiculous and dangerous stunt," Michael Cohen, an executive at the Trump Organization, said in an emailed statement. "I'm 100 per cent certain the NYPD had better things to do."

Terraces and other parts of the building are open to the public during the day.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SYRIA

Russians declare ceasefires in Aleppo

The Russian military said Wednesday that fighting in Aleppo will cease for three hours daily to allow humanitarian aid deliveries, but it was unclear whether rebels had agreed.

A UN official, meanwhile, said a break in fighting for at least 48 hours was needed to get sufficient aid into the city.

Lt. Gen. Sergei Rudskoi of the Russian military's General Staff said the daily cease-fires will be observed from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. local time starting Thursday. He didn't say whether the rebels have agreed to respect the halts in hostilities, or explain how they would be enforced.

Rudskoi says Russia supports the UN proposal to oversee the aid deliveries, adding that the Russian military is discussing the issue with UN experts and the U.S. military.

In Washington, U.S. State Department spokeswoman Elizabeth Trudeau said all parties to the Syrian conflict must abide by the UN request to ensure access for humanitarian supplies.

"We would welcome any pause that successfully facilitates delivering of vitally needed humanitarian supplies, but such a cease-fire must be observed by all parties," she said. "All supplies, including food and medical supplies, as determined and requested solely by the UN, need to be delivered now."

At the United Nations, UN humanitarian chief Stephen O'Brien said that 48 hours and a two-lane road were the minimum requirement for getting sufficient humanitarian aid into Aleppo.

"When we're offered three hours, then you have to ask what could be achieved in those three hours?" he told reporters.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

Newborns die as fire rips through maternity ward



Burnt incubators stand outside Yarmouk hospital. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A fire ripped through a maternity ward at a Baghdad hospital overnight, killing 12 newborn babies, government officials said Wednesday, a deadly blaze that was likely caused by faulty electrical wiring.

By morning, grief-stricken fathers searched for their missing newborns in vain while angry relatives gathered outside the Yarmouk hospital in western Baghdad blamed the government for the tragedy. Some of the babies who perished were prematurely born, a doctor at the hospital said.

The hospital director, Saad Hatem Ahmed, said the blaze broke out late on Tuesday night and that the initial investigation indicated it was an electrical fire. Ahmed said 29 female patients and eight babies were moved from the ward where the fire broke out and transferred to another hospital.

Baghdad authorities initially sealed off the hospital but later allowed some media into the site.

At the maternity ward, forensic teams in masks and protective gloves were seen searching through the rubble and charred pieces of furniture. A yellow tape stretched across the ward entrance, preventing reporters from getting closer.

Outside, crying relatives claimed some of the babies were still missing and demanded an answer from authorities.

Shaima Hassan stood dazed and trembling in shock after losing her two-day-old son. The 36-year old had spent more than a year visiting hospitals in and outside Iraq trying to conceive.

"I waited for ages to have this baby and when I finally had him, it took only a second to lose him," she said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Shots fired after car strikes protester in Ferguson, Mo.

Gunshots rang out but apparently hit no one after a car struck a protester during a peaceful demonstration in Ferguson, Missouri, on the second anniversary of Michael Brown's death.

Witnesses said that a car drove into a group of protesters who were blocking a street during the demonstration Tuesday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HISTORY

Rare mosaic of chariot race found in Cyprus

A mosaic floor dating to the 4th century and depicting scenes from a chariot race in the hippodrome has been uncovered, the only one of its kind in Cyprus and one of only a handful in the world, a Cypriot archaeologist said Wednesday.

Cyprus Antiquities Department archaeologist Fryni Hadjichristofi told the Associated Press that out of the many hundreds of ancient mosaic floors discovered around the world, only around seven depict similar chariot races at the hippodrome.

What distinguishes this mosaic is its ornate detail and the fact that it depicts complete scenes from race in which four chariots, each with a team of four horses, are competing. This may be representative of different factions in competition with each other in ancient Rome.

"The hippodrome was very important in ancient Roman times, it was the place where the emperor appeared to his people and projected his power," said Hadjichristofi.

The mosaic is 11 metres long and four meters wide but hasn't been fully uncovered yet.

It's possibly part of a villa that may have belonged to a wealthy individual or nobleman when Cyprus was under Roman rule.

The mosaic, about 30 kilometres west of the capital Nicosia, also sheds new light on the ancient past of the island's interior, about which little is known.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A rare mosaic floor dating to the 4th century depicting scenes from a chariot race in the hippodrome, in Akaki village, Cyprus, on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Torched giant T replaced

U.S. CAMPAIGN

Trump backer builds 16-foot letter on lawn of his house

A huge red-white-and-blue letter T with an American flag theme in tribute to Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump has risen on a New York lawn days after a slightly smaller one was torched there.

Trump supporter Sam Pirozzolo stood proudly Wednesday on his front lawn in Staten Island by the 16-foot-high letter, almost as tall as his house.

The T, ringed by a fence, is painted in latex on foam insulation with a wooden support frame. The few surviving pieces of the original T are still charred black.

Investigators are trying to determine who sneaked up under cover of darkness and set fire to artist Scott LoBaido's original 12-foot-high T on Sunday, about three months after it was installed. Pirozzolo blames "pro-Hillary Clinton thugs."

Pirozzolo was awakened at about 1 a.m. when a passing motorist knocked on his door to alert him about the fire.

He rushed out as the Trump tribute was going up in flames, "and the first thing that came to my mind was, 'Oh, my God, this is like the Ku Klux Klan burning a cross on my lawn, telling me that I have to shut up.'" Instead, Pirozzolo, who's a 52-year-old optician, and the artist set to work the next day, assembling another installation.



Sam Pirozzolo talks to a reporter in front of his house where a giant "T" is displayed in the borough of Staten Island in New York, Wednesday. SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pirozzolo said Trump called him on Monday, thanking him and LoBaido for their show of support. Pirozzolo's wife and two teenage kids listened in.

On Wednesday, passing motorists honked and shouted their approval.

LoBaido said the T is his response to the harassment of Trump supporters, including signs with Trump's name being pulled up from their lawns.

On Tuesday afternoon, hundreds of people appeared after the new T went up, singing "God Bless America" and shouting comments opposing Clinton, the Democratic presidential nominee.

The new T "is a symbol of the freedom of speech that we have that's been taken away from us," said Tina Matula, a 39-year-old Republican and Staten Island native now living in Sayreville, New Jersey.

She said she had her two young daughters with her to teach them they have the right "to be able to express how you feel politically."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KANSAS WATERPARK

Boy was beheaded on slide

The 10-year-old boy killed during a ride on the world's tallest waterslide was decapitated in the accident, a person familiar with the investigation said Wednesday. Authorities have yet to explain how it happened.

The person was speaking on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak publicly about the death of Caleb Schwab Sunday on the "Verruckt" raft ride at the Schlitterbahn WaterPark in Kansas City, Kansas.

Two women who are not family members were also in the raft at the time and were treated for facial injuries. The boy's parents — Republican state Rep. Scott Schwab and his wife, Michele — have not spoken publicly since the death. His funeral is scheduled for Friday.

The park reopened Wednesday except for a large section that includes the waterslide, although its towering profile greeted visitors when they drove through the entrance.

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RESEARCH

Migrants travelled south on the Pacific

Researchers have found new evidence that the first Americans migrated south from Alaska via the Pacific coast, rather than a route hundreds of miles inland along the Rocky Mountains.

The colonization of the Americas began after people arrived from Siberia, crossing an ancient land bridge called Beringia into Alaska. Huge ice sheets largely blocked the way south, but a gap in western Canada was long thought to provide an ice-free corridor for migration into the continent.

That idea ran into a problem as archaeologists documented human presence in the Americas at earlier and earlier times. The corridor appeared some 15,000 to 14,000 years ago as the ice sheets retreated, but studies suggest that people had reached South America by at least 14,700 years ago. Even if one accepts the earliest date for the corridor, it's hard to believe the migration could have gone so far south, so fast.

So in recent years, many scientists have concluded that the first southward migrants travelled along the Pacific coast instead, either in boats or on land.

The new research, released Wednesday by the journal Nature, casts further doubt on the inland corridor. It suggests that even after the corridor appeared, it wasn't suitable for migration until about 12,600 years ago.

The paper, by Eske Willerslev of Cambridge University and others, analyzed pollen and traces of animal DNA from ancient sediments of two lakes near Fort St. John in northeastern British Columbia. That general area is where the corridor last opened. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

High avocado prices fuelling deforestation

AGRICULTURE

Farmers pressed to meet global demand

Americans' love for avocados and rising prices for the highly exportable fruit are fuelling the deforestation of central Mexico's pine forests as farmers rapidly expand their orchards to feed demand.

Avocado trees flourish at about the same altitude and climate as the pine and fir forests in the mountains of Michoacan, the state that produces most of Mexico's avocados. That has led farmers to wage a cat-and-mouse campaign to avoid authorities, thinning out the forests, planting young avocado trees under the forest canopy, and then gradually cutting back the forest as the trees grow to give them more sunlight.

"Even where they aren't visibly cutting down forest, there are avocados growing underneath (the pine boughs), and sooner or later they'll cut down the pines completely," said Mario Tapia Vargas, a researcher at Mexico's National Institute for Forestry, Farming and Fisheries Research.

Given that Michoacan's forests contain much of the wintering grounds of the monarch butterfly, the deforestation is more than just an academic issue. Authorities have already detected small avocado plots in the monarchs' reserve where farmers have cut down pine forest.

Worse, Tapia Vargas said, a mature avocado orchard uses almost twice as much water as fairly dense forest, meaning less water reaches Michoacan's legendary crystalline mountain streams on which the forests and animals depend.

Greenpeace Mexico says people are likely to suffer, too.

"Beyond the displacement of forests and the effects on water retention, the high use of agricultural chemicals and the large volumes of wood needed to pack and ship avocados are other factors that could have negative effects," Greenpeace said in a statement.

Avocado prices jumped from around 86 cents apiece in January to around $1.10 in July, partly because of weak seasonal supply from Mexico. And the peso lost 16 per cent of its value against the dollar over the past year, making exports cheaper for the U.S. customers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

APPETITE

It is the enormous U.S. appetite for avocados that has driven the expansion.

- Between 2001 and 2010, avocado production in Michoacan tripled, but exports rose 10 times.
- The Tapia Vargas report suggested the expansion caused loss of forest land of about 1,700 acres (690 hectares) a year from 2000 through 2010.



A woman prepares a bag of avocados in Mexico City on Tuesday. Avocado trees flourish at about the same altitude and climate as the pine and fir forests of Michoacan, the state that produces most of Mexico's avocados. NICK WAGNER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED STATES

New report reopens debate over closing Guantanamo prison



Following a lengthy tug-of-war with Capitol Hill, the Pentagon has given one senator the first-ever, unclassified report detailing the suspected militant backgrounds of more than 100 detainees at or recently released from the U.S. military prison at **Guantanamo Bay.** THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

A new report on Guantanamo detainees tells the stories of former al-Qaida bomb makers and bodyguards as well as low-level militant cooks and medics who have been transferred or cleared for release — despite fears they are at risk of returning to battle and many after being held without charge for more than 14 years at the military prison the president wants to close.

The Pentagon gave the unclassified report to Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., who has been pushing the Obama administration for years to be more transparent about who is being transferred out of the prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

"By clearly detailing some of the disturbing terrorist activities and affiliations of detainees at Guantanamo, the report demonstrates why these terrorists should not be released — they pose a serious risk to our national security," Ayotte said in an email response to questions.

The remaining detainees "will no doubt" return to the fight once released, she said, noting that the Defence Department told her that 93 per cent of the detainees still at Guantanamo as of late last year were high risk for re-engagement in terrorism.

The report tells the story of detainees like Karim Bostan, who once ran a flower shop and later was accused of running an al-Qaida-affiliated explosives cell believed to have targeted U.S.-led coalition forces in eastern Afghanistan. He's been at Guantanamo for more than 13 years, but has been cleared for transfer to another country.

It also, however, tells the story of Muhammad Said Salim Bin Salman, a Yemeni who travelled to Afghanistan to train at an al-Qaida camp. He says he became a cook and never fought because he suffers from back pain. Deemed a medium intelligence risk, he was cleared for release and transferred to Oman in January following 14 years of detention.

The Office of the Director of National Intelligence reports that 5 per cent of Guantanamo prisoners released since President Barack Obama took office have re-engaged in militant activities and another 8 per cent are suspected of it. That compares to 21 per cent confirmed and 14 per cent suspected during the Bush administration. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RETAIL

Giant Tiger looking at an expanded role

For 55 years, Giant Tiger's smiling feline mascot has beckoned shoppers, mostly in small towns and cities, and those making a pit stop on the way to the cottage.

But after years of operating under the radar amid intense competition against rivals like Walmart and the now defunct Target Canada, the company is setting its sights on becoming a household name.

The Ottawa-based retailer currently operates 220 stores and has a goal of opening 10 to 15 new stores every year for the next three to five years.

The company also has plans to revamp the design of its locations and increase its product offerings in order to build a better shopping experience. Growing its e-commerce business has also been a top priority.

Selling everything from groceries to big-screen TVs, the national discount chain credits the key to its survival and more importantly, its success over the last half-century, to delivering value to shoppers in the know.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Giant Tiger plans to revamp the design of its locations. CONTRIBUTED

IN BRIEF

Delta struggles through third day of problems

Delta fliers faced delays, cancellations and more headaches Wednesday as the Atlanta-based airline struggled with its computer systems for the third straight day. Nearly 300 flights were cancelled by the afternoon.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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A storm-damaged barley field near Cremona, Alta., on Tuesday tells the tale of two summers — too much rain in the west and drought in the east. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Concerns are raised over state of crops

HARVEST

Farmers deal with drought in east, rain on the prairies

It's a tale of two summers this year in Canada, with rain — and the lack of it — causing concerns about the state of the country's crops.

In Ontario, officials are forecasting a strong fruit harvest but add that unusually dry conditions could mean some crops will have smaller yields and costs will be higher for many farmers.

"This year is definitely one of the driest, if not the driest, we have on record for April through July," said Environment Canada meteorologist Peter Kimbell.

Nonetheless, Ontario's Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs says the fruit harvest could be double last year's — when spring frost hurt apple crops, in particular.

That's despite the fact that vegetables like broccoli, corn and soybeans are struggling in the low-moisture, high-heat conditions the province is facing this summer.

Charles Stevens, an apple and berry grower and chairman of the Ontario Apple Growers, said the lack of moisture has forced many farmers to "hand thin" — picking fruit before it ripens to ensure that the fruit that remains can grow to maturity, which reduces the size of the harvest and drives up costs.

The story is the reverse in the prairies, where relentless rainstorms in Alberta and Saskatchewan have meant increased risk of rot and disease in what could otherwise be a bumper year.

Daphne Cruise, a Saskatchewan crop specialist, said lentils and other pulses, which farmers planted in big numbers because of the increased price and their recent popularity among consumers, are most vulnerable to the moisture.

The big rainstorms across the prairies have also brought lots of hail, sometimes the size of tennis balls, something Cruise notes has further damaged crops. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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metro VIEWS
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Thursday, August 11, 2016

CHANTAL HÉBERT ON A PATRONAGE PROBLEM



Perhaps for fear of undermining the credibility of the panel tasked with vetting the Energy East pipeline, the Liberal government has not asked Harper's pre-election appointees to recuse themselves.

In the dying days of his government, Stephen Harper went to considerable lengths to ensure that the National Energy Board panel tasked with vetting the controversial Energy East pipeline be made up of commissioners hand-picked by the Conservatives — regardless of the election outcome.

In the months prior to the election call, Harper re-appointed to various boards and agencies dozens of people whose terms were not due to expire until after the federal election.

In the case of the NEB, Harper handed Justin Trudeau a full roster. The Liberals will not have a vacancy to fill among the temporary members of the board until 2018 — by which time it will have reported on all major pipeline projects currently in the works. The next permanent vacancy will not come up until after the next federal election.

Two of the three members of the Energy East panel that, as of this week, has been conducting hearings into TransCanada's plan to link Alberta's oilfields to the Atlantic Coast were among Harper's appointments.

In the normal scheme of events, Jacques Gauthier and Lyne Mercier would have been up for replacement in December 2015 — almost a full month after the swearing-in of Trudeau's government.

Trudeau has reiterated his government's determination to restore public confidence in the pipeline process.

Instead, both had their terms preventively renewed over the final weeks and months of the last Conservative Parliament.

It is a rare person who gets appointed to a public task by a prime minister not once or twice but three times over less than a decade.

Gauthier is such a rarity.

Remember the 2010 Vancouver Olympic winter games and the viral controversy that erupted in the face of a distinct deficit of French at the opening ceremony? Gauthier happened to head the advisory council responsible for insuring that the games reflected Canada's linguistic duality.

Notwithstanding that public relations fiasco, he also served on the Prime Minister's Advisory Committee on the Public Service prior to being appointed and reappointed to the NEB.

After iPolitics uncovered Harper's deathbed patronage spree, the incoming Liberal government did write to 33 Conservative appointees to ask them to voluntarily relinquish their functions.

But perhaps for fear of undermining the credibility of the Energy East panel even before it had begun its public hearings, or to deflect accusations that it was interfering with an independent tribunal, it did not — at least in writing — put Gauthier and Mercier on notice.



HOLDOVERS The National Energy Board's Energy East Panel: Roland George, Lyne Mercier and Jacques Gauthier. Mercier and Gauthier were appointed by Stephen Harper. CONTRIBUTED

By the time Trudeau took office, the two had already stretched the notion of the arm's-length relationship that is expected to preside over the dealings between an NEB panel and the proponents and opponents of a given project.

In the months prior to their reappointments by Harper in early 2015, the two participated in a series of private meetings with various Quebec constituencies — mostly but not exclusively from the pro-pipeline corporate sector.

One of those they met was former Quebec premier Jean Charest. He was then a consultant for TransCanada.

When National Observer broke the story last month, the NEB insisted Energy East was not on the agenda. But last week, the agency retracted itself. Notes from the meetings show the pipeline was indeed up for discussion, as were various strategies to advance the file. Gauthier, who initiated the meeting with Charest, specifically wrote in an email obtained by National Observer that he wanted to talk about the TransCanada project.

On Tuesday Environment Minister Catherine McKenna declined to comment on the panel's behind-closed-doors dealings with parties that have a direct or indirect interest in the outcome of its review of Energy East, or their potential impact on the NEB's credibility as an independent agency. But ignoring the elephant in the room will not make it go away.

Since he has become prime minister, Trudeau has reiterated his government's determination to restore public confidence in the pipeline approval process. With NEB reform out of their reach for the foreseeable future, the Liberals have committed to hold separate additional consultations focused on the environment and the rights of indigenous people prior to the cabinet coming to a final decision.

But the NEB, whose official task it is to determine if a pipeline is in the national interest and recommend accordingly a way forward to the government, remains a cornerstone of the process and it is hard to build on sand.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro on Thursdays.

Forget the hijab and just watch the women play



Deena Douara
For Metro

The image is a Rorschach test. You know, that tool psychologists use to determine you feel abandoned by your father.

Objectively, the photo shows two young female athletes leaping for the same volleyball after working very hard to earn a spot at the Rio Games. One of them is wearing a bikini, the other full sleeves, tight pants and hijab.

Beyond those 38 words, the next 962 are yours to fill in. Does the image represent a clash of civilizations or backwardness of religion? Or does it show unity at the Olympics? The beauty of diversity, and the power of sport?

It's no surprise, perhaps, that what should be a conversation around athleticism, skill and competition instead has become a conversation about what Muslim women wear, after changes before the 2012 Olympics gave women more flexibility on what they could wear in beach volleyball. Allowing the hijab was a last-minute "concession" this year, according to the BBC.

Considering their outfits pose no harm to themselves or opponents, there is no value to having the what-Muslim-women-wear conversation. You're worried they're hot or that they're putting themselves at a disadvantage? Stop worrying. They've got this. They didn't qualify because of a quota — they earned their spot. You don't like how it looks? Great, don't buy the outfit. They're oppressed? They've made a choice for themselves, are confident enough to not conform to Olympic expectations, excelled at an uncommon sport, and have put themselves before the eyes of millions of judges. I don't know either of the players, but my guess is that they own their story and their decisions, just like the rest of the veiled Egyptian women whom I know.



Nineteen-year-old Doaa Elghobashy told the Associated Press that she has worn the hijab for 10 years. "It doesn't keep me away from the things I love to do," she explained. She and teammate Nada Meawad (not veiled but similarly attired), are the first beach volleyball team from Egypt at the Olympics.

Apparently, Elghobashy placed a higher priority on personal values and beliefs than on some unknown and unquantifiable potential competitive benefit. People I know have called that stupid. I call it admirable. But I also call it irrelevant.

The Egyptian team faces Canada today. What I'll be watching, if I watch, is two teams that have worked hard, put in long hours, overcome doubt, and made personal sacrifices leap towards a ball above a net. Which is really the only thing that's truly knowable about this image.

Deena Douara is a writer living in Toronto

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Thursday, August 11, 2016



Jose Bautista's collab with Canada Goose goes on sale tonight on Harryrosen.com. The jacket is "somewhat hip but a little bit classy. Sleeker than a puffy."

5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT CUPPING



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Why do some Olympians look like they just fought off an octopus? Their round, hickey-like marks are from cupping, an alternative therapy that involves putting suction cups on the skin. It's said to treat everything from pain to chickenpox to cancer.

How it works depends on whom you ask: freeing blocked energy; activating natural healing mechanisms; even "drawing out excess fluids and toxins." Here's what you need to know about this trendy (and dubious) procedure.

Cupping is very, very old

Cupping is part of traditional Chinese medicine as well as Middle Eastern healing practices that date back thousands of years. Ancient Greek physician Herodotus was a fan circa 400 BCE, as was the Prophet Muhammad in the sixth century.

There are two main types

"Dry cupping" involves sticking a flame inside of a cup to create a vacuum, then applying it to the body to suck the skin inside. Sometimes a suction pump is used instead. "Wet cupping" combines this with bloodletting by puncturing the skin first.

It has some famous fans

Alternative-health aficionado Gwenyth Paltrow has been cupping since before it was cool. She was photographed in 2004 with the telltale welts on her back. Other devotees include Lena Dunham, Justin Bieber, Jennifer Aniston and Olympic athlete Michael Phelps (shown), who sported cupping marks in the pool earlier this week in Rio.

It can go really wrong

Usually, the only side effect is bruising. Wet cupping, because it requires cutting, has an infection risk. Dry cupping is playing with fire: It involves wielding open flame near bare skin. One case of necrosis (tissue death) and sepsis (blood poisoning) from cupping done repeatedly to the same spot has been reported in Australia.

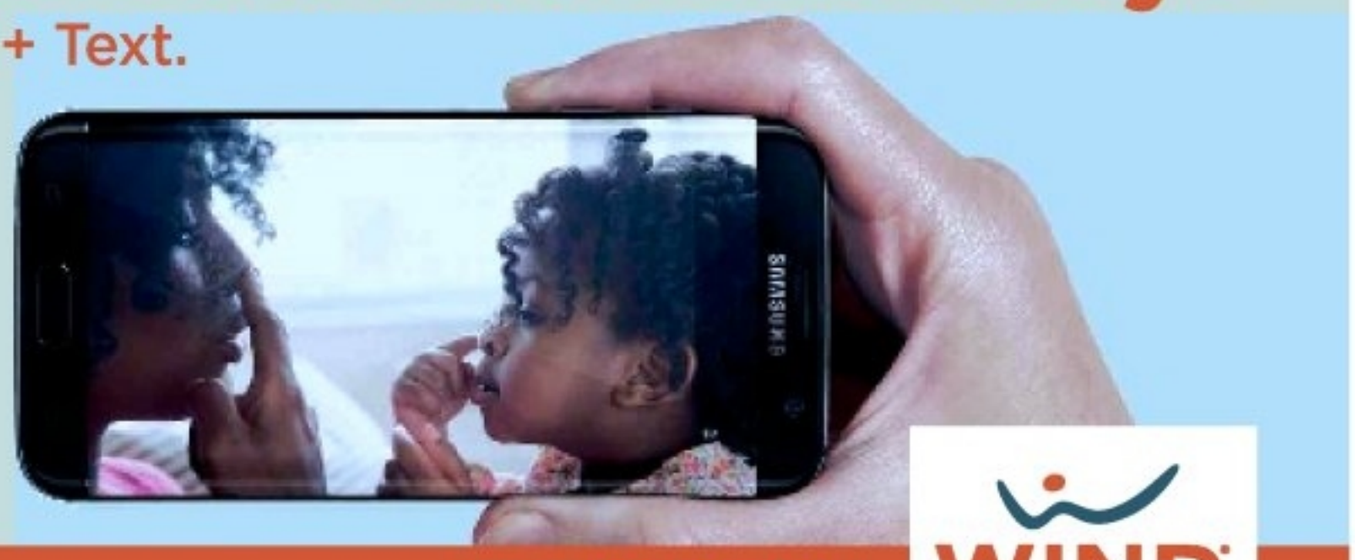
There's almost no proof it works

Studies of cupping have been small, poorly designed and highly susceptible to bias. There's some indication the practice may help relieve pain, though it's not clear if the benefit is anything other than psychological.

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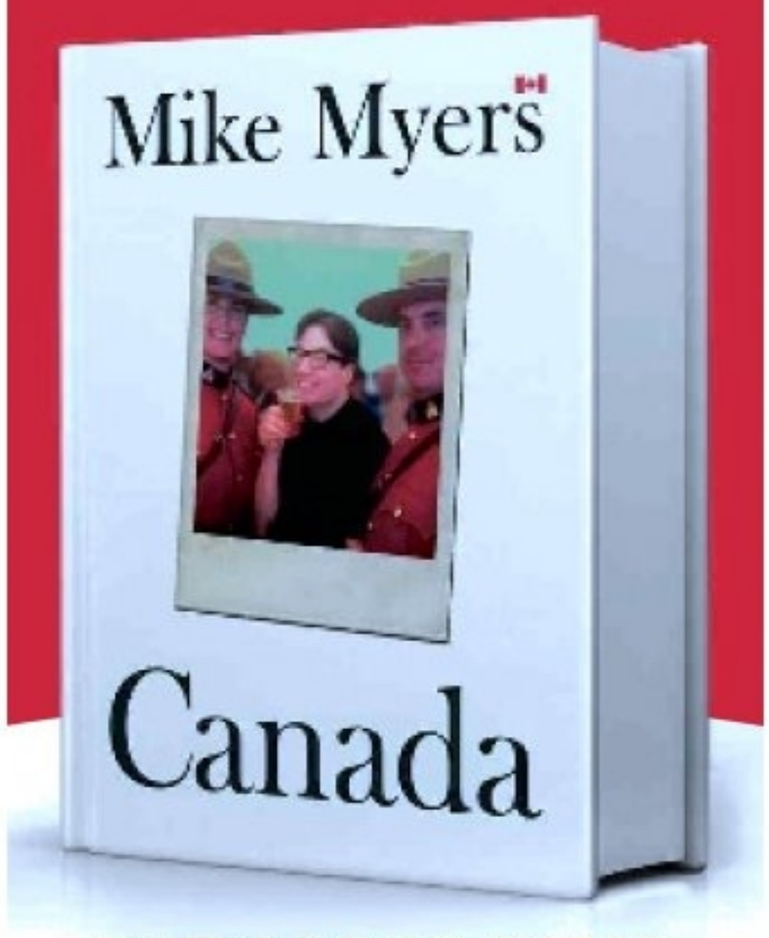
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Renaissance man mixes science with art in novel

JAY HOSKING

Writer's background helped pen tale of time, memory

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

Jay Hosking knows a lot about rats. He understands their motivations and behaviour, and what makes their tiny brains tick.

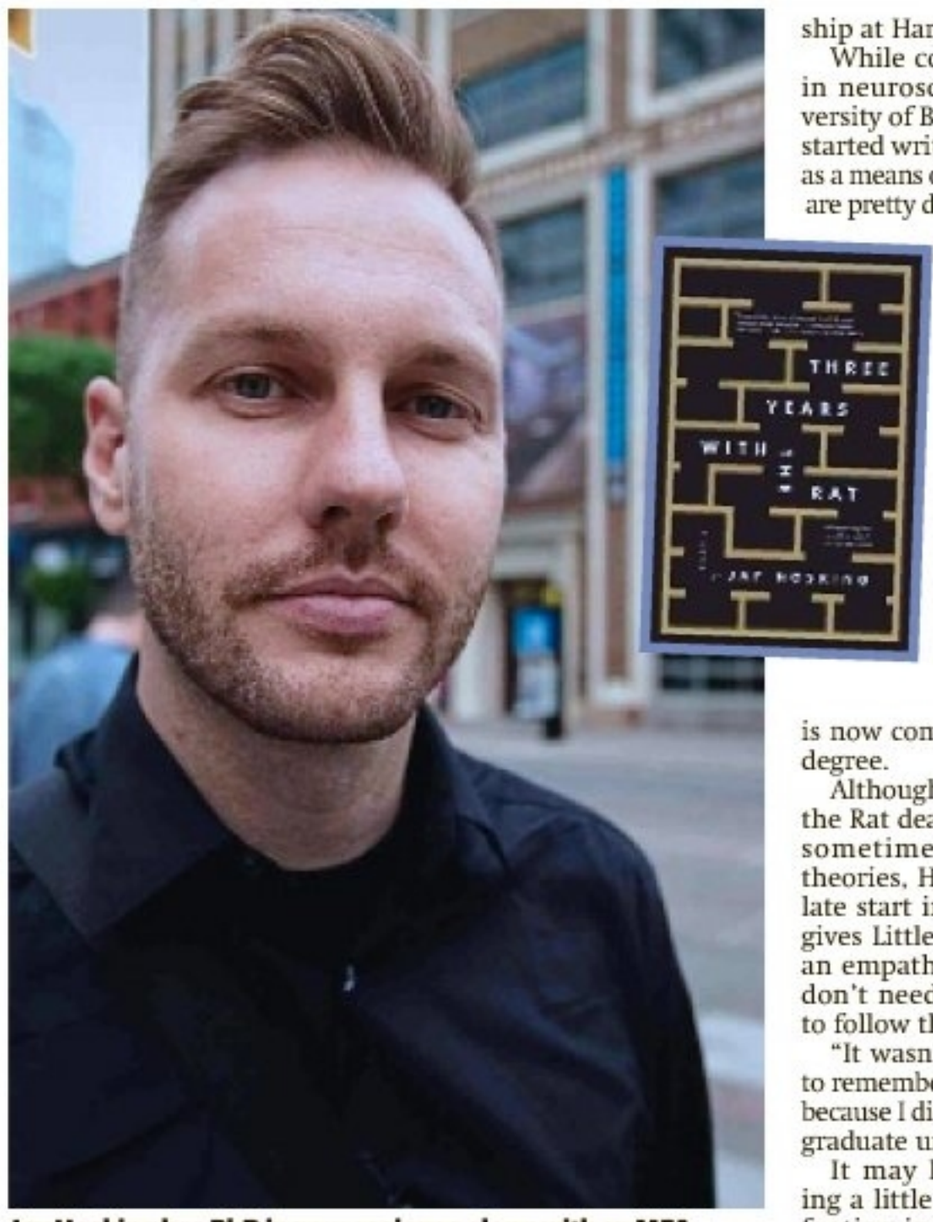
As a neuroscience graduate student at the University of British Columbia, Hosking worked with rodents in a research lab, studying their decision-making skills and teaching them how to gamble. It's not surprising that his debut novel, Three Years with the Rat, wraps together science, psychology, mystery and yes, a rat.

Set in Toronto, Three Years with the Rat follows a young, aimless man only known as "Little Brother" who moves to the city to be closer to his older sister, Grace, a highly intelligent psychophysics graduate student who appears to be losing her grip on reality.

When Grace goes missing, followed by her boyfriend, John, the narrator discovers a large, handmade wooden box in their apartment, along with a lab rat and a note that says "This is the only way back for us."

Their disappearance sets the young man into a spiralling adventure, challenging known theories of time and memory.

While Three Years with the Rat could be easily slotted on the speculative-fiction shelf, the book also deals with relationships, both romantic and familial.



Jay Hosking has PhD in neuroscience along with an MFA creative writing. CONTRIBUTED

Hosking grew up reading classic science fiction, but says he owes more of his writing to the postmodern works of Paul Auster and Haruki Murakami. A self-described arts kid — his grade eight teacher told him, "Whatever you do Jay, don't go into science" — Hosking did his first degree through Fanshawe College's music-production program, working for several years in film and television, before deciding to go back to school for neuroscience at the University of Toronto.

"I was a really late starter in terms of science. I came to that because psychology was something I was really interested in, but I wanted something a little meatier or biologically based," says Hosking, who is now working on his postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard University.

While completing his PhD in neuroscience at the University of British Columbia he started writing fiction, mostly as a means of distraction. "PhDs are pretty demanding," he says. "I thought I might go crazy if I kept my head in the lab all the time." He signed up for a fiction course with author Lee Henderson, jokingly calling himself the class's "resident weirdo." Once he finished his PhD, Hosking enrolled in UBC's creative-writing MFA program, where he is now completing his fourth degree.

Although Three Years with the Rat deals with ambitious, sometimes mind-boggling theories, Hosking's relatively late start in studying science gives Little Brother's journey an empathetic edge; readers don't need a physics degree to follow the story.

"It wasn't that challenging to remember knowing nothing because I didn't start my undergraduate until 25," he says.

It may have taken Hosking a little longer to find his footing in both science and writing, but the timing of his book also couldn't be better, thanks to the popular Netflix show Stranger Things, which has re-ignited an interest in stories about time and other dimensions. "There's an amazing discussion happening philosophically in fiction and art," he says. "It's a deep well to be drawing from."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

GRAPHIC NOVEL

A charming anthropomorphic animal tale

Wild's End: The Enemy Within
BY: Dan Abnett and I.N.J. Culbard
PUBLISHER: Boom Studios
$19.99, 160 pages

Mike Donachie
Metro | Canada

Unstoppable aliens have invaded the sleepy English countryside, and the army is covering it up.

The population must be told, and a plucky band of eyewitnesses must escape to raise the alarm.

And, by the way, all the "humans" have the heads of animals.

This is Wild's End: The Enemy Within, the frankly weird trade paperback collection that marries War of the Worlds with the Wind in the Willows.

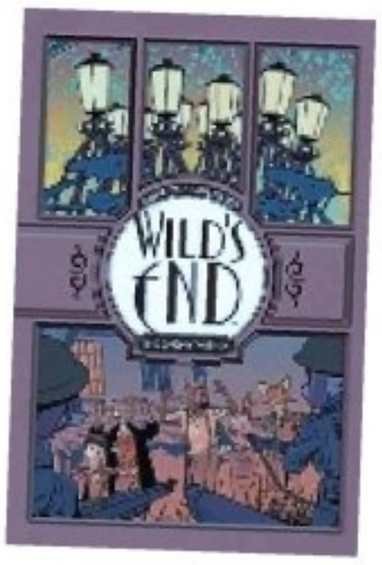
It's the second in a series, but part one, called Wild's End: First Light, is also available.

It's a sinister story, where the fear of the aliens — who live in three-legged machines armed with powerful death rays — is rivalled by fear of the authorities who will stop at nothing to keep the invasion secret.

In charming comic book tradition, all the protagonists are anthropomorphic animals, from traumatized war veteran Clive Slipaway, who's a dog, to anxiety-stricken writer Susan Peardew, who's a dog.

But don't confuse cuteness with tameness.

This is a slow-burn story with no shortage of violent conflict, and a payoff that'll make your hackles rise in fear.



Who Shot Sports

Any professional shutterbug will tell you sports photography is among the most challenging aspects of the craft. Gail Buckland, former curator with the Royal Photographic society of Great Britain, scoured more than 50 archives, pulling the work of 165 photographers from 1843 to now for Who Shot Sports. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Rugby as art

Ray McManus, an Irish sports photographer and founder of the Sportsfile photography agency, photographed only one rugby match in 2011 — he prefers football and hurling — but it's an award winner, displaying a game in all its mud, sweat and glory that demands pure brawn from players who, unlike most sports, are fitted with minimal protective gear.



Toro

Daniel Ochoa de Olza was propitiously born in a place associated with bulls, Pamplona, Spain where an annual festival puts locals and tourists in the path of rampaging toros. Ochoa de Olza began as a painter before turning to photography and soon became fascinated with bullfighting, capturing images of famed matador Juan Jose Padilla in 2012, a series he called Bullfighter's Comeback. A year earlier, Padilla had been gored by a bull, losing an eye and requiring substantial reconstructive surgery.



Tour de France

At 40, Paolo Pellizzari was a late arrival to the game of sports photography. His sole piece of equipment is a Noblex camera with a panoramic lens that takes 135-degree images similar to the perspective of the human eye. It's an ideal camera to shoot the Tour de France, founded in 1903. The image, taken in 2000 in the village of Saint-Macaire-en-Mauges, captures the chaos of the world's most famous cycling events.



Astrodome

Jim Dow, who taught for decades at prestigious institutions such as Harvard, Princeton and Tufts University, found a particular niche in sports photography, shooting more than 300 baseball stadiums in triptych fashion. The image features the Houston Astrodome, the world's first domed sports stadium, which Dow shot in 1982. (The building, which operated from 1965 to 2000, was partially demolished in 2013 and now sits empty.)



Battle ready

In addition to his work for Sports Illustrated and France's national sports daily, Equipe, French photographer Gerard Rancinan has won numerous international awards covering natural catastrophes and conflicts around the globe, including civil and ethnic wars and urban riots. That experience is exemplified in the warlike, battle-ready pose of French epee fencer Laura Fiessel, a five-time Olympic medal winner, taken in March, 2014.

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A peek inside the lives of contemporary men

AWARDS

David Szalay eyes Man Booker Prize with new novel



Sue Carter
For Metro Canada



Reader sympathy for his male character will be tested — especially in their interactions with women. "I just wanted to write about men, generally," says David Szalay of his latest book, All That Man Is. CONTRIBUTED

It seems somewhat fitting that David Szalay found out about his Man Booker Prize nomination, which came as a big surprise to the Canadian-born writer, while vacationing in Europe. After all, his long listed novel, All That a Man Is, is a snapshot of nine men passing through various stages of life while collecting European stamps on their passports.

Szalay, along with Canadian writer Madeleine Thien, who was born in Vancouver, and her acclaimed novel Do Not Say We Have Nothing, are among a total of 13 English-language authors long listed for the approximately $87,000 2016 Man Booker Prize.

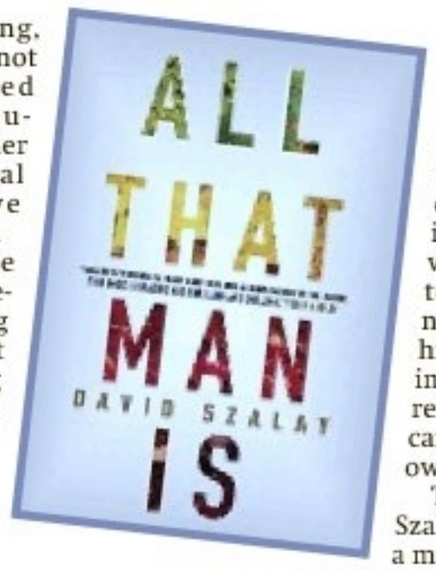
Szalay was born in Montreal in 1974 to a Canadian mother and Hungarian father, but moved to the U.K. as an infant, where he grew up, and later attended Oxford University.

He has family in Canada, but hasn't visited in several years, though he says he still feels a connection here. It's a connection that may deepen as the Canadian awards season heats up this fall — like former Governor General's Literary Award winners Eleanor Catton, who lives in New Zealand, and Patrick DeWitt, who resides in Portland, Ore., Szalay's birth-town makes him eligible for this country's biggest book prizes.

All That a Man Is was born five years ago with Szalay's idea about a group of characters, of all different nationalities, connected through their travels.

As a U.K. citizen who has lived in Belgium and Hungary, Szalay related to the feelings of being a perpetual outsider. In his own travels he had observed how the "countries and cultures of Europe rub against each other, and the way that Europe is now very much a continent of displaced people."

Yet Szalay, already the author of three well-received novels, felt a bit stuck. He had reached an impasse with his writing, and was not interested in pursuing another traditional narrative structure.



"There was something about writing about one central character, or even one group of people in a single story interacting with each other, that I chafed against," Szalay says.

But then he had another idea: presenting the novel as a series of stories featuring men of different ages.

Although there is no direct connection between these nine men, Szalay views them collectively as a "single composite character." All That a Man Is starts chronologically with a stoned 17-year-old on vacation in Poland desperately trying to have sex, through to the poignant story of a senior citizen in his 70s who, while contemplating the nearing end of his life, ends up in Bologna, Italy, recovering from a car accident of his own doing.

The first story Szalay wrote, about a muscular Hungarian fitness instructor who finds himself lost, contemplating his future while working as security for a sex worker and her boyfriend in London, "came very directly from my own experience of moving from one country to another," he says.

The timing of All That a Man Is also makes it a standout in the literary landscape, and a strong potential awards contender. Beyond the fact that the novel is grounded in its philosophical themes and cultural references, Szalay's often bleak but introspective observations conjure comparisons to Martin Amis: it's a view of contemporary manhood we haven't seen in awhile.

The depth of his characters, and how they deal with emotions (often poorly), also run counter to popular depictions of contemporary masculinity, in particular, Hollywood's seeming obsession with the jokester man-child stereotype.

Szalay says he wrote all these men with a sympathetic view, in particular as they faced the aging process — although that sympathy might be tested for readers in their various interactions with women as lovers, wives, employers and objects of desire.

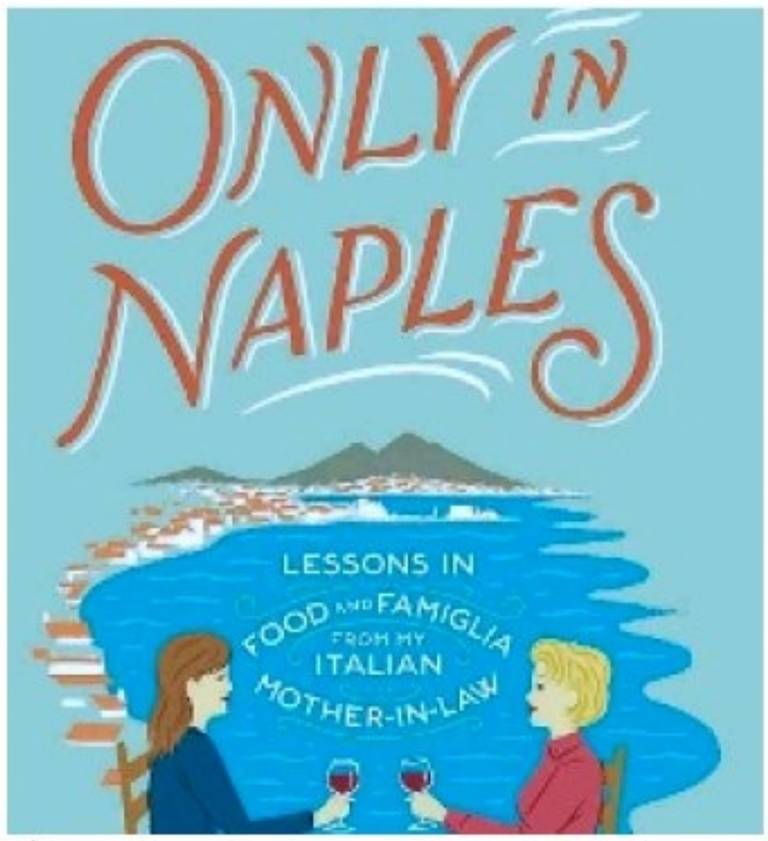
"Taken as a whole, I know that the characters come across in a reasonably unattractive light," he says.

"But I wasn't really thinking of a particular person or type of person. I really just wanted to write about men, generally."

5 BOOKS FOR FOODIES: FROM HOT DOGS TO GASTRONOMY

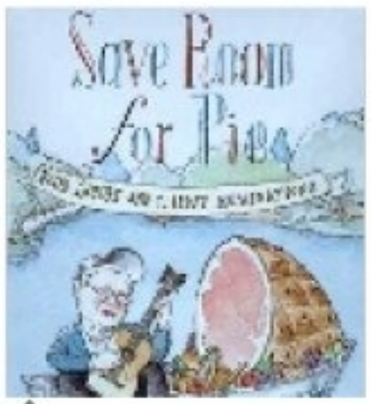
Here's the menu: a memoir of eating well (and losing weight) in Naples; a history of Nathan's Famous, the Coney Island hot-dog empire; a journey around India's coastline in pursuit of fish; a foodie deconstruction of elBulli's molecular gastronomy; and more than 100 witty ruminations on food and eating.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



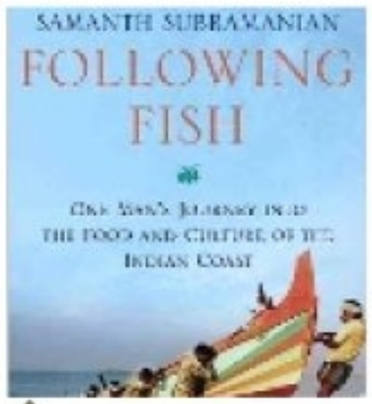
1 Noshing in Naples

When **Katherine Wilson** arrives in Naples for her "experience abroad" (a rite of passage for members of her Washington family), she is a chubby girl with binge-eating disorder. Within six weeks she is eating the Neapolitan way and has lost 20 pounds. Thanks are due to the Avallone family, specifically son Salvatore, the sweet man she falls for, and his mother Raffaella, who teaches her much about life. Reading the memoir **Only in Naples: Lessons in Food and Famiglia from My Italian Mother-In-Law** is like being seated around the crowded Avallone table: you eat well, pick up a smattering of Italian and learn how to cook several of the meals you've consumed.



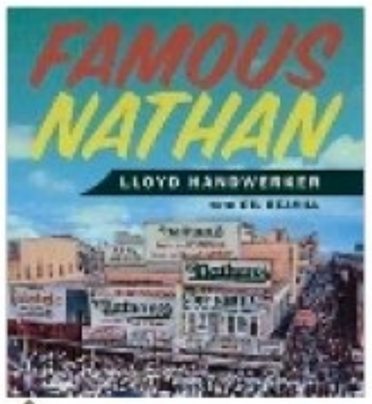
2 Inspiring edibles

Whatever observations about food that Roy Blount Jr. has had over the course of his 75 years have likely found their way into **Saving Room for Pie: Food Songs and Chewy Ruminations.** There are no fewer than 100 ruminations on edibles, some delivered in verse, some in song, some as travel notes, others set before us as news stories (real and imaginary), plus anecdotes, ideas and reminiscences (like the time he offended a black friend by serving watermelon for dessert or the time he drank a London Fog in the 1970s with America's songbird Kate Smith). This is Blount's 24th book. If you listen to the NPR's Wait, Wait ... Don't Tell Me! (and you should), then you are familiar with panel member Blount's immense affability.



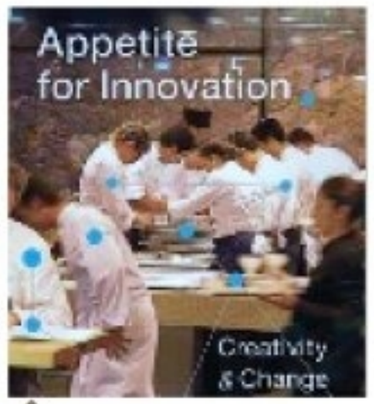
3 Finding wisdom in fish

Following Fish: One Man's Journey into the Food and Culture of the Indian Coast, Samanth Subramanian is a literary travelogue of India's coastline using fish, fishing and fishermen as its frame, an undertaking that inevitably touches on geography, sport, culture and more by **Samanth Subramanian.** Subramanian (who isn't particularly fond of fish) made several forays from his New Delhi base, beginning in the markets of Kolkata (Kolkata) exploring the mystique surrounding the hilsa fish, and ending with the boat builders in Gujarat province. Why fishing? As he explains in his Afterword: "Fishing is still elemental in the most elemental sense of the word — an activity composed of water and air and light and space, all arranged in precarious balance."



4 A hot dog empire history

Author **Lloyd Handwerker** is the grandson of Nathan Handwerker, the founder of Nathan's Famous, the Coney Island hot-dog legend. **Famous Nathan: A Family Saga of Coney Island, the American Dream, and the Search for the Perfect Hot Dog** is a rollicking food dynasty epic beginning when Nathan leaves Poland at age 19 in 1912 and four years later, thanks mostly due to a brutal work ethic, opens a shop with a five-foot counter and finds instant success selling his dogs for a nickel while the vendors around him are charging a dime. Nathan's celebrated its centennial in July, which makes this a good time for bringing out Famous Nathan. Insider fact: the contestants in the eating competition are known as "gurgitators."



5 Appetite for academia?

Appetite for Innovation: Creativity & Change is an academic work by scholar **M. Pilar Opazo** who decided to deconstruct the genius of chef Ferran Adrià at elBulli, the Michelin three-star restaurant in Spain that introduced "molecular gastronomy" and "techno-emotional cooking" to our vocabulary. This is the question Opazo asks herself at the outset: "How was it possible for a restaurant in the middle of nowhere to reach and have an impact upon the world that resided outside it? How did a self-taught cook with no English skills come to be recognized as an international icon of creativity and innovation?" Heady stuff. Opazo's investigation will engage anyone interested in the intersection of business, creativity and organizational behaviour.

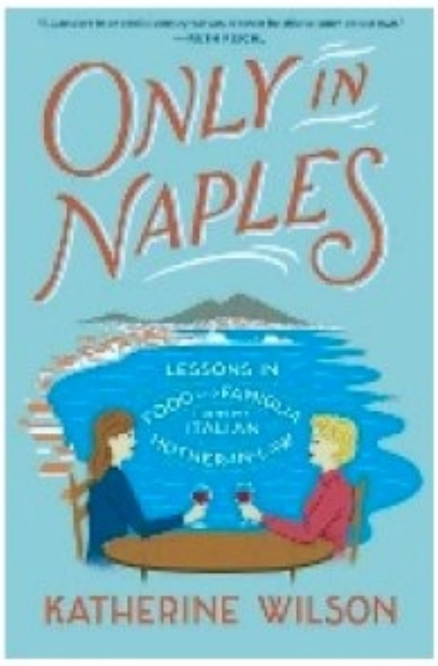


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5 BOOKS FOR FOODIES: FROM HOT DOGS TO GASTRONOMY

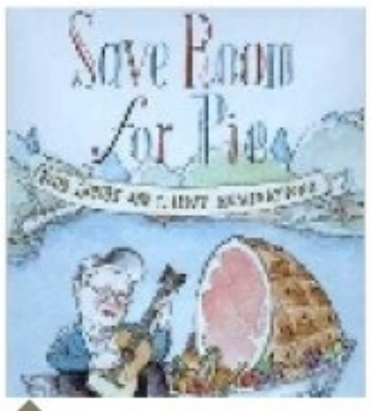
Here's the menu: a memoir of eating well (and losing weight) in Naples; a history of Nathan's Famous, the Coney Island hot-dog empire; a journey around India's coastline in pursuit of fish; a foodie deconstruction of elBulli's molecular gastronomy; and more than 100 witty ruminations on food and eating.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



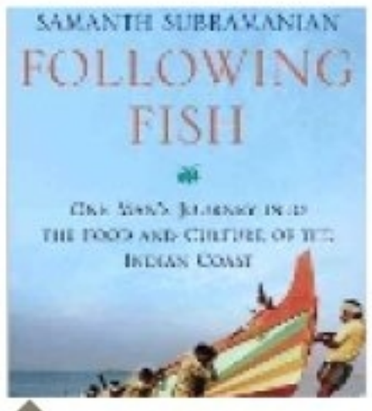
1 Noshing in Naples

When **Katherine Wilson** arrives in Naples for her "experience abroad" (a rite of passage for members of her Washington family), she is a chubby girl with binge-eating disorder. Within six weeks she is eating the Neapolitan way and has lost 20 pounds. Thanks are due to the Avallone family, specifically son Salvatore, the sweet man she falls for, and his mother Raffaella, who teaches her much about life. Reading the memoir **Only in Naples: Lessons in Food and Famiglia from My Italian Mother-In-Law** is like being seated around the crowded Avallone table: you eat well, pick up a smattering of Italian and learn how to cook several of the meals you've consumed.



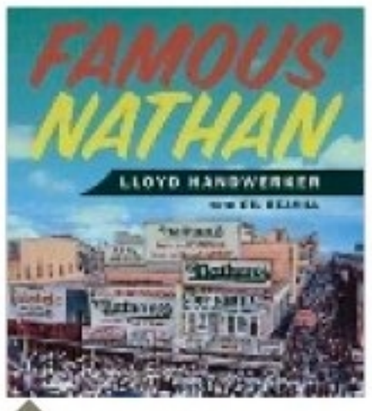
2 Inspiring edibles

Whatever observations about food that Roy Blount Jr. has had over the course of his 75 years have likely found their way into **Saving Room for Pie: Food Songs and Chewy Ruminations.** There are no fewer than 100 ruminations on edibles delivered in many methods: anecdotes, ideas and reminiscences.



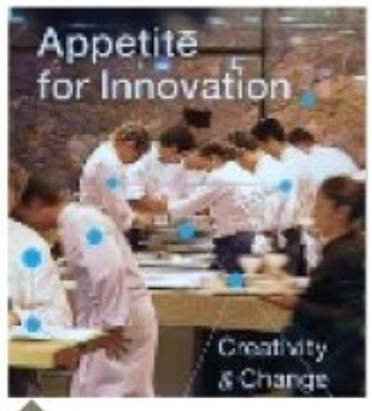
3 Finding wisdom in fish

Following Fish: One Man's Journey into the Food and Culture of the Indian Coast, Samanth Subramanian is a literary travelogue of India's coastline using fish, fishing and fishermen as its frame, an undertaking that inevitably touches on geography, sport, culture and more by **Samanth Subramanian.**



4 A hot dog empire history

Author **Lloyd Handwerker** is the grandson of Nathan Handwerker, the founder of Nathan's Famous, the Coney Island hot-dog legend. **Famous Nathan: A Family Saga of Coney Island, the American Dream, and the Search for the Perfect Hot Dog** is a rollicking food dynasty epic.



5 Appetite for academia?

Appetite for Innovation: Creativity & Change is an academic work by scholar **M. Pilar Opazo** who decided to deconstruct the genius of chef Ferran Adrià at elBulli, the Michelin three-star restaurant in Spain that introduced "molecular gastronomy" and "techno-emotional cooking" to our vocabulary.





This recipe makes 10 spring pea crostinis with burrata and prosciutto. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

An app that's perfect for summer

RECIPE

Burrata crostini perfect balance of creamy and crunchy

Gaby Dalkin is a woman after our hearts.

She worships cheese, she's a little clumsy in the kitchen and she wrote a cookbook about avocados.

Oh, and she was previously Jessica Simpson's personal chef.

This Spring Pea Crostini recipe, can be found on Dalkin's What's Gaby Cooking food blog by searching I searched "burrata cheese."

If you've never heard of burrata, know it's a gooey ball of heaven that might change your life.

This lemony and savoury appetizer struck the right balance of creamy and crunchy. It's also surprisingly filling. Eat more than three and consider yourself stuffed.

The original recipe called for California Dry Jack cheese, but we substituted Old Amsterdam premium aged gouda.

The blog: What's Gaby Cooking, a food blog featuring California-inspired recipes.

The quote: "Can we talk about my love affair with California burrata cheese, because it's intense!

"Given the opportunity, I could take down a pound or two in a matter of minutes. When it comes to self-control, it goes straight out the window when burrata cheese is involved!"

For more of Dalkin's recipes, visit whatsgabycooking.com.

Spring Pea Crostini with Burrata and Prosciutto

Makes 10 Crostinis

Ingredients:

- 1 baguette, sliced on an angle into 10 1-inch pieces. This may not require the whole baguette
- 1/4 cup (60 mL) olive oil
- 1-1/4 cups (310 mL) frozen peas, thawed
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) mint leaves
- 1 garlic clove
- 1/3 cup (80 mL) grated Old Amsterdam premium aged gouda
- 1 lemon, juiced
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) red pepper flakes
- Kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper to taste
- 1 ball burrata cheese, room temperature
- 10 slices prosciutto

Directions:

1. Heat oven to 400F/200C. On a baking tray, place baguette slices flat and drizzle olive oil generously over each.

2. Toast bread for 2 1/2 minutes or until crispy. Flip pieces and repeat. Remove and set crostinis on serving tray.

3. In a large food processor, combine peas, mint, garlic, gouda, lemon juice, red pepper flakes, salt and pepper. Pulse for 30 seconds. Adjust seasoning to taste.

4. On crostinis, slather 2 to 3 tablespoons pea pesto on top of each crostini. Add 1 to 2 tablespoons burrata and top with a piece of prosciutto. Repeat on other crostinis and serve immediately. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE





Jim Sturgess portrays Dion Patras, Elijah Jacob portrays TJ Moran and David Schwimmer portrays Tommy Moran in Feed the Beast, premiering Sunday. FRANK OCKENFELS/AMC VIA AP



JOHANNA SCHNELLER **WHAT I'M WATCHING**

New show has great pedigree but doesn't deliver the goods

THE SHOW: Feed the Beast, Season 1, Episode 2 (AMC)
THE MOMENT: The tough-talking cop

A car screeches across the sidewalk in front of cocaine-loving chef Dion (Jim Sturgess). It's Det. Guy Giordano (Michael Rispoli), who wants Dion to gather evidence on the Tooth Fairy (Michael Gladis), a mobster who pulls the teeth of shirkers. Dion owes the Tooth Fairy, big. He gets in the car.

Guy drives. "One thing I hate: waiting," he sneers. "Cable guy. UPS. You."

"I can't just ask the Tooth Fairy to tell me all the bad things he's ever done," Dion says. "It don't work like that. But I have something interesting. The Asians are getting a huge shipment of blow, any day."

Guy hits the brakes. He grabs Dion's crotch. "I don't give a rat's ass about the Asians," he growls. "I want that fat Polack." He clicks his tongue against his front tooth. It's false. Looks like Tooth Fairy took his real one.

Guy releases Dion. "Git outta my cah," he snarls.

This series feels like it ought to be good, but it's not. It's good-adjacent. Meaning, it has the pedigree of something good (cast, production values, network), but doesn't deliver.

Its cops and mobsters are bargain-bin copies of characters from better shows. And its twin leads (David Schwimmer plays Dion's pal, a sommelier) suffer from Antiheroitis, TV's insistence that every hero must be an antihero now. A true antihero is a complex person with ambivalent motivations. Dion is merely a jerk who keeps doin' stupid stuff. He quickly grows tiresome. And poor Sturgess's Bronx accent sounds like curdled cottage cheese.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

IN DEVELOPMENT

Hurricane Katrina as a storm of crime

As The People v. O.J. Simpson rides the high of its 22 Emmy nominations, the writing team behind Season 2 of the FX anthology series American Crime Story is hard at work on scripts for the next installment, which focuses on Hurricane Katrina.

"We want the events that brought America together and also that shine a light on the parts of America that maybe we don't want to acknowledge," said executive producer Brad Simpson.

> There's also the crime of us not rescuing these people.
> Brad Simpson

Simpson credits series creator and writer Ryan Murphy with the idea. But Simpson and his producing partner Nina Jacobson had long been fascinated with the topic.

"There were crimes that happened during Katrina. Murders, rapes, you know, and there's also the crime of us not rescuing these people and not being prepared to take care of New Orleans," he said.

Simpson said they "have a book" they're working off of but also employ a researcher helping to gather information.

Simpson adds that once the scripts are more concrete, they will know which roles they have to cast.

"We'd like to use as many actors as we can. It's gonna be subject to availability whether we have the right roles. You know, certainly Sterling (K. Brown), (John) Travolta, Sarah (Paulson), Cuba (Gooding, Jr.). We'd like to figure out if there are roles for them."

Season 2 of American Crime Story is slated to return to FX in 2017. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



American Crime Story executive producers Brad Simpson and Nina Jacobson. EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION/AP

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THREE AWESOME ALBERTA FESTIVALS THAT WILL MAKE YOUR SUMMER

By Lisa Monforton

What do cabbage rolls, quarter horses and constellations have in common? They're all not-to-miss features at some upcoming festivals in Alberta. Just when you thought festival season was past its peak, a whole new lineup of fun weekends is ready to take us happily into September.

It's easy enough to make a mini-road trip out of any of these events. Each lasts anywhere from one day to four, allowing enough time to explore the highways, biways and roadside attractions in and around the host cities and towns.

Dance, eat, drink, repeat

Babas and Borshch Ukrainian Festival, Andrew, Alta., Aug. 20-21: You don't have to be Ukrainian to get into the spirit of a zabava. What's a zabava? It's a high-energy celebration of all things Ukrainian, and includes drinks, food and lots of dancing and singing.

Lamont County, which aspires to be Canada's borshch capital, swells from 400 people to 3,000 over the two days. The free event kicks off a two-year, 125th anniversary celebration of Ukrainian immigration and settlement in Canada.

Be sure to wear your stretchy waistbands for two days of eating perogies (pyrohy), beet soup (borshch), cabbage rolls (holubtsi) and sausage, served by vendors and food trucks. A special brunch on Sunday, features "to die for" potato pancakes with garlic sauce.

All that food will provide plenty of energy for a Ukrainian dance lesson and the long list of festivities and events. Baba's Bazaar features booths selling traditional clothing, jewelry and cookbooks. Meanwhile, on both days, all ages will be entertained by stage shows and the kids' area.

Save some energy for Saturday night and the aforementioned zabava, (tickets $50), featuring a traditional buffet dinner followed by the twirling, heel-kicking dances of Edmonton's Verkhovyna Ensemble, featuring the Dunai dancers, along with a choir.

If you've got the energy, dance until 1 a.m. with pop, rock and country music. Get up Sunday for more events, including the Borshch Cook Off, and to eat, drink and celebrate all things Ukrainian all over again.

www.babasandborshch.ca

And they're off! Half mile of speedy steeds

Battle of the Rockies Chuckwagon Festival, Aug. 18-21: A chuckwagon race takes just a minute-and-a-half, but what a heck of a 90-second adrenaline rush it is. It might just be the most exciting rodeo event of them all.

These addictively fun, sit-on-the-edge-of-your-seat spectacles offer eight or nine heats each night. The Battle of the Rockies Chuckwagon Festival in Rocky Mountain House offers a hard-to-beat small-town version of the thundering hooves churning up the dust on the 5/8-mile track.

Sitting in the stands, you can almost hear the heartbeats of the horses – and perhaps even the drivers – in the nervous anticipation leading up to the blare of the claxon bell. "And they're off!" yells the announcer as the drivers, their speedy steeds and the outriders all jockey for position.

The sound of the clattering wagons is quickly drowned out when the spectators in the metal stands begin to stomp their feet as the teams of horses and their riders come into view around the final corner. And just as that the finish line horn blares, the next crew is ready to wow the crowd again.

battleoftherockies.org/schedule.htm

Star-studded party of the celestial kind

Beaver Hills 11th Annual Dark Sky Preserve Star Party, Elk Island, Sept 3-4: There's something magical about cozying up with your kids in a blanket and gazing way up into the heavens in search of your favourite constellations or distant planets.

One of the best places to see a star-studded celestial sky is during the 11th Annual Star Party at Beaver Hills Dark Sky Preserve, in Elk Island National Park.

Big-city lights obscure the best night-sky viewing, so Elk Island, located less than an hour east of Edmonton, is an officially designated dark-sky preserve, one of three in Alberta, where the starry views are saved for future generations.

The two-day celebration happens at two different locations, on Sept. 3 in nearby Miquelon Lake Provincial Park and the next day at Elk Island National Park, just as the nights are getting crisp and the best night-sky viewing season is beginning.

Hang out with volunteer astronomers who will help hunt the heavens through giant telescopes for constellations, galaxies, planets and stars. Perhaps there will even be a glimpse of the Northern Lights doing a colourful dance.

The weekend is full of special activities, displays and guest speakers. Besides the stars in the sky, there's a good chance you'll see the stars of Canada's first wildlife sanctuary – the bison that call the park home.

pc.gc.ca/eng/pn-np/ab/elkisland/index.aspx

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Your essential daily news



'We have no plans to collaborate at this point,' Ikea responds to Kanye's wish to work with them

MEET THE CONDO

SONOMA AT NOLAN HILL

Nolan Hill townhomes

CONTRIBUTED

Project overview

From contemporary cabinetry, upgraded trim packages and stainless steel appliances to professionally landscaped entry ways and stone exterior detailing, the interior are just as good as the exterior ones. Buyers can choose from the Arrival floorplan or the Boulevard floorplan.

Housing amenities

Each of the 106 two-storey townhomes comes with an attached garage with full driveway parking, making space for two cars. Each unit comes with a choice of five interior colour schemes, 9' ceiling on the main floor and James Hardie concrete siding and trim package.

Location and transit

Tucked away in northwest Calgary, Nolan Hill boasts an extensive pathway system, natural ravines, ponds, parks and future school sites. With convenient access to the nearby Foothills, Stoney Trail and the picturesque Rocky Mountains, this unique community is also close to bus routes.

In the neighbourhood

Nolan Hill has a multitude of retail shopping, grocery stores, coffee shops restaurants and more while not giving up its proximity to parks and schools. CrossIron Mills isn't too far away, providing outlet mall shopping and entertainment while it's still bordered by a natural ravine.

KRISTA SYLVESTER/FOR METRO

NEED TO KNOW

What: Sonoma at Nolan Hill
Builder: Morrison Homes
Designer: N/A
Location: 428 Nolan Hill Drive NW
Building: 106 front to back style townhomes
Sizes: 1,183 sq. ft. to 1,224 sq. ft.
Pricing: From the 290's
Model: Two and three bedroom townhomes
Status: Rolling out final phase
Sales centre: 428 Nolan Hill Drive NW
Phone: 587-352-7614
Website: SonomaNolanHill.com

REAL ESTATE

What's hot on the market

1 NOW OPEN

The Armory by Cove Properties: It's time to catch a glimpse inside the sophisticated Armory condo project, located in the up and coming community of Currie Barracks. Visit the Sales Centre located at J5, 2953 Battleford Ave S.W.

2 NOW SELLING

District by Boulevard Investments Corp: The District features 59 stylish condos, which are uniquely located just steps away from popular dining, shopping, and entertainment and lifestyle amenities in the heart of Mission. Check out the Sales Centre at 305 18 Avenue S.W.

3 STILL SELLING

AVLI by RED Management: AVLI is ideally located in the neighbourhood of Inglewood featuring innovative design, quality and value. With a choice of studios, townhomes and penthouses, this project has a lot to offer. Visit the Sales Centre located at 1020 9th Avenue S.E.

KRISTA SYLVESTER/FOR METRO



Five awesome trends for fall 2016

STYLE

Patterns and colour will be huge come September

This fall, decor continues to move in a more easygoing direction, with welcoming hues, softer profiles, and a comfortable mix of materials and styles.

For those with a flair for the dramatic, there's room for that too. Some trends for the upcoming season:

Warm and welcoming

New York designer Elaine Griffin sees the influence of Millennials in a trend toward "feel-good finds" with a palette of warm colours, laidback furnishings and lots of texture.

Millennials are embracing locally produced crafts as well as goods from far corners of the planet, she says.

"There's retro style and global influence everywhere."

Fall also offers a range of new rugs, from fluffy wools in neutral colours to kilims in deeper tones and stronger patterns.

Amy Matthews, the Minneapolis-based renovation maven who has hosted shows on HGTV, DIY Network and TheDesignNetwork.com, loves using Persian runners in unexpected places.

"There's nothing like (it) in the kitchen," she says. "It brightens up a classic kitchen, and also makes changing out colour schemes a breeze. And in any other room, it will take your decor to the next level by anchoring with 'art' for the floor."

Look for kilims on benches and ottomans, too.



Indigo is an important colour for the fall, as seen in this couch and batik plates by Crate & Barrel. CONTRIBUTED

Pattern play

Geometrics, mineral prints, florals and global motifs get fresh interpretations for fall.

For Griffin, "marble motifs are the 'it' pattern of the season." The veined white versions are ubiquitous across bath, kitchen and tabletop goods, but look too for marbleized patterns in dramatic hues on fabric and paper.

Wallpapers are on Matthews' pattern radar.

"Wallpaper's not just for the walls anymore," she says. It can go on ceilings and even furniture.

"It's more dramatic and eye-catching than paint, making a strong statement and setting the tone for a room," she says.

Roman blinds are also back in style, with contemporary pattern collections by designers like Diane Von Furstenberg and Jeffrey Alan Marks.

Mix, match and metals

Beth Kushnick, set decorator for CBS's The Good Wife, puts metallics near the top of her trend list.

"Some are highly reflective and others are more subtle, but they're in gold, silver, copper and rubbed bronze. They really up-scale a look and broaden a colour palette," she says.

The trend appeals to Matthews, too. Her style tip: don't overdo it.

Colour story

"My go-to colour is always blue," says Kushnick. "I'm seeing dark blue and teal in particular now, which work so well for a variety of styles, bridging the gap between masculine and feminine."

Adds Matthews: "Cool greys are giving way to dusty, sky and indigo blues."

Griffin is seeing muted versions of '60s pottery hues — turquoise, coral, citrus and ivory — debuting this fall and carrying into spring 2017.

A range of whites and creams will complement all those metallics, says Kushnick.

"As a set decorator, I usually try to stay away from these colours, since they're difficult to use on camera. But on my new show (CBS's BrainDead) I'm using them almost exclusively. I'm seeing options in every decor style. White's working year-round, and is here to stay."

The paint company Benjamin Moore has named Simply White its colour of the year, and Sherwin-Williams, Glidden and Behr also selected whites as their signature 2016 colours.

Dramatic touches

Matthews is excited about "the rebirth of the chandelier." She sees the statement fixture as one of the most dramatic and playful additions to any room.

"Designs look best when they're eclectic and a bit eccentric," she says, adding, "The more eye-catching, the better. If tile is 'eye candy' for the walls, then pendant lights are the earrings that make the outfit."

For Griffin, the drama's all about a curvier silhouette in furnishings.

"After years of harsh angles, the curve looks fresh for fall," she observes. "Streamlined new versions are evocative of '70s and '80s classics." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LIVING ROOMS

Mix 'n' match tables and chairs are the modern way

When choosing the right dining table and chairs, there are no rigid rules. Think about mixing and matching pieces instead of plunking down money for a perfectly matched set, experts say.

"These days, we see people choosing opposite styles for the table and the chairs," said Amy Panos, a Des Moines, Iowa-based deputy editor at Better Homes and Gardens magazine. "It makes the room interesting and gives it personality. Everybody wants a very personalized, 'Oh I threw this together and it represents my style' look.' There are no 'I have tos.' There are only 'I want tos.'"

Think about your style, budget, the size of your dining area, how you like to entertain, and how you're going to use the table and chairs — are they just for eating, or also for homework, kids' projects, work?

> **We believe that furniture is expression. It's like art**
>
> Ebee Martinez, owner, Sunbeam Vintage in L.A.

Start by measuring the space, whether it's a breakfast nook, kitchen, large dining room or small college dorm.

"You have to have room to pull the chairs in and out, and be able to move around the table," said Panos, who suggested leaving 36 to 48 inches on all sides, away from walls and other furniture.

"Get something you love, that really speaks to you," she said.



You don't need a matching set to create a midcentury modern look. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tables and chairs can range from a $200 wooden dining table and $30 wooden chairs from Ikea, to $250 to $800 tables at chains Cost Plus World Market and Crate & Barrel. Higher-end tables can cost thousands of dollars at boutique stores, antique stores and upscale outlets such as Restoration Hardware. Shipping furniture bought online can also bump up the cost, Panos said.

At Sunbeam Vintage, a Los Angeles store that sells new, on-site handmade, imported and vintage furniture, owner Ebee Martinez, 37, walked between tables and chairs of different shapes and sizes packed deep into the high-ceilinged shop. The store specializes in midcentury modern and midcentury modern-inspired pieces, as well as '70s-style Hollywood glam chrome, gold, copper and brass accented tables and chairs, which are making a comeback, Martinez said.

"We believe that furniture is expression. It's like art," Martinez said. "People have fun with it. We have customers who are artistic, and want something unique." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metro RIO



Carmelo Anthony tallied 31 points in a 98-88 win over Australia and became the all-time leading scorer in U.S. men's Olympic basketball

DeLaet tackling the chipping yips head on

RIO2016

'Incredible anxiety' has plagued Canuck

The golf course that will begin playing host to the first Olympic tournament in 112 years on Thursday is a zoological marvel. On a short walk around a few holes this week, you could have seen a Boss Hogg-sized capybara munching on the foliage, a flock of vultures circling overhead, several owls burrowing in the bunkers and a small crocodile sunning itself in a pond.

Unique hazards, indeed. But it's possible none of those beasts are as frightening to a golfer as the variety of wild demons that recently invaded the head space of Canadian Olympian Graham DeLaet.

It was about two months ago that DeLaet sent out a Twitter message to explain his withdrawal from the PGA Tour's Memorial tournament, telling the world he was "dealing with incredible anxiety while chipping/pitching right now." Such mental bugaboos are hardly uncommon even among the world's best players. Just this year, four-time major winner Ernie Els six-putted from six feet on the first hole of the Masters. He blamed creatures that also inhabit the environs here in Rio.



Graham DeLaet, of Weyburn, Sask., blasts out of a bunker during a practice round in Rio de Janeiro on Monday. SCOTT HALLERAN/GETTY IMAGES

"It's hard to putt when you've got snakes in your head," Els said.

Still, DeLaet's public acknowledgement of his problem amounted to a rare moment of honesty and vulnerability in the hush-hush world of pro sports. Ray Whitney, the retired NHL player who will be caddying for DeLaet at these Olympics, said it was an admission to be admired.

"That tweet showed he had a lot of balls," Whitney said. "He could have easily said that he tweaked his back or he had a wrist injury. Instead he stared it in the face and said, 'Hey everybody, I've got a little problem I need to fix.' And he's been working hard to fix it."

This week DeLaet said his issue is "actually getting much better."

> **Whatever Graham felt he needed to say, it's obviously helped him already. He's gonna be better for it.** Teammate David Hearn

Derek Ingram, Canada's men's golf coach, said DeLaet has spoken freely about his short-game shortcomings, acknowledging a flaw in his technique being addressed in practice sessions with his short-game coach, Gabriel Hjertstedt.

"He's also been using some techniques with his breathing to help him relax, so that when that situation arises he'll be able to manage the anxiety," Ingram said. "He wouldn't say he's out of the water yet. But certainly he's got some tools to work with, and he's feeling way more confident than he was." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BASKETBALL

Canadian women advance to quarters

GROUP PLAY

68	58
CANADA	SENEGAL

There's so much more to be accomplished that now is not the time for the Canadian basketball team to bask in its Rio Olympics accomplishment, but there is a level of a satisfaction at what's been done.

With their eyes firmly set on a place on the Games medal podium, the women took their first step in that direction on Wednesday, clinching a berth in the quarter-finals with a 68-58 victory over Senegal at the Youth Arena in the Rio suburbs.

Now 3-0 — marking the first time a women's team has ever won three games in one Olympics — Canada is tied for first place atop its group and guaranteed a second straight Games quarter-final spot.

"That's huge," Kia Nurse said of the historic third win. "That's just a testament to the rise of basketball on the women's side in Canada and how it's continued to grow each and every day. It's testament to those older guys on our team who've done nothing but bring this program on its rise."

Nurse had 14 points and Tamara Tatham had 13 for Canada, which once again got production up and down the lineup as 11 of the 12 women scored. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



SWIMMING OLEKSIAK CAPTURES HER THIRD MEDAL
Toronto's Penny Oleksiak anchored the Canadian women to a bronze medal in the 4x200-metre freestyle on Wednesday night. Katerine Savard (Pont-Rouge, Que.), Taylor Ruck (Kelowna, B.C.), Kennedy Goss (Toronto) and Emily Overholt (West Vancouver) were the other team members. Earlier in the evening, Oleksiak qualified for the 100-metre freestyle final, to be held Thursday. TOM PENNINGTON/GETTY IMAGES

RIO in brief

Mother Nature proving to be a formidable foe

Mother Nature was Canada's toughest opponent Wednesday in Rio.

Blustery weather again plagued the rowing regatta, forcing a postponement of the entire day of racing. It marked the second time this week that officials had to call off competition because of high winds and choppy water.

Rowers weren't the only athletes affected by weather as rain and wind resulted in the postponement of tennis. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFLer tries out rugby

Nate Ebner, the safety for the New England Patriots who took a break from training camp to fulfil his Olympic dream in rugby sevens, sprinted from almost halfway to score a try against Fiji capping the scoring in a 24-19 loss for the United States.

U.S. captain Madison Hughes missed the conversion from out wide, leaving the margin at five. Less than that and the Americans would have advanced. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GREEN WATER

Chemical imbalance blamed for colour

Let's be generous for a moment and say that the colour of the water could have been worse.

A day after the Olympic diving pool turned a swampy shade of green, Wednesday saw the adjacent pool at the Maria Lenk Aquatic Center — the one used for water polo and synchronized swimming — morph from its usual blue to a slightly less shocking shade of the same, uninviting colour. As in, a nauseatingly tinged liquid that wouldn't qualify as the least bit inviting to anyone but the drunkest of beer guzzlers on a St. Patrick's Day bender.

Still, it was probably better than the once perfectly azure waters of the 31st Olympiad suddenly running, say, blood red or sludge black. And hey, it's not like there was a discarded sofa lurking ominously below the pool surface, as there may or may not have been on the kayaking course last week. This was, according to organizers, a minor aesthetic anomaly that posed no threat to the health of the athletes, and at least a few of the Olympians affected by it sounded unconcerned.

> **My eyes are destroyed now.**
> Water polo player Valentino Gallo of Italy

"In France, we have some swimming pools of this colour," said Florian Bruzzo, coach of France's water polo squad. "So it's not a problem for us."

Not everyone felt the same way. Multiple water polo players who competed in Wednesday morning's session complained the water was hard on the eyes in more ways than one.

"It's very difficult to play in this water because the chlorine is really, really strong for the eyes," said Mladan Janovic of Montenegro. "You cannot even see."

Organizers acknowledged they'd dropped the ball in monitoring the chemical balance of the pools. Rio spokesman Mario Andrada blamed the colour transformation on "a sudden increase in the alkalinity." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

metro SPORTS



Manny Pacquiao says he will come out of retirement to fight WBO welterweight champion Jessie Vargas on Nov. 5

High five for Tulowitzki as Happ keeps rolling on

BLUE JAYS

Starter tames Tampa to take league lead with 16th win

At Rogers Centre

7	0
BLUE JAYS	RAYS

J.A. Happ's magical season continues.

Happ became the first 16-game winner in Major League Baseball this season by tossing six innings of shutout ball on Wednesday night as the Blue Jays blanked the Tampa Bay Rays 7-0.

Happ struck out seven, walked two and yielded only four hits (all singles) in improving his record to 16-3. He's won 10-straight decisions, equalling a mark among Jays claimed by only Roger Clemens and Roy Halladay.

Troy Tulowitzki homered and set a season-high with five RBIs while Devon Travis continued to shine in the leadoff spot for the Jays, extending his hit streak to seven games. Justin Smoak added his 13th home run of the year.

Toronto (65-50) entered the night tied with Baltimore for control of the American League East.



Troy Tulowitzki rounds the bases past Tampa Bay Rays starter Blake Snell and Evan Longoria after hitting a three-run home run Wednesday night. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Happ's toughest sequence came in the first when the first two Rays to bat both reached base. Happ retired the next three batters, striking out Mikie Mahtook to close the inning. The Jays quickly snatched the lead thereafter.

Travis led off with a single to left before Josh Donaldson singled to right after a foul pop fly was dropped by Tampa right-fielder Steven Souza Jr.

Toronto made Souza Jr.'s error sting when Tulowitzki sent a Blake Snell slider over the wall in left giving Toronto a 3-0 lead.

The Jays chased Snell from the game with two outs in the second. After Travis cashed a Darwin Barney double with an RBI-single, Snell went on to issue three straight free passes, the latter to Tulowitzki with the bases loaded. That extended the Blue Jays lead to 5-0.

An unlikely Cy Young contender, Happ never let an inning get out of hand in his latest outing. He closed four of six innings with a strikeout, snuffing out any hope of a rally to leave is ERA now standing at 2.96.

THE CANADIAN PRES

JOEY TO DL

Bautista sprains his knee

Jose Bautista is headed back to the 15-day disabled list with a sprained left knee. The Blue Jays outfielder, who only just returned from a stint on the DL, injured the knee as he attempted a throw from right field in the third inning of Tuesday's 9-2 loss to Tampa.

"My cleat got caught in the turf, knee got a little jerked there and I landed on it too," Bautista told reporters on Wednesday. "I can't really tell if (it happened) when my cleat got caught or when I landed on it, but it's a sprained knee nonetheless and I'm on the DL."

Bautista said he hoped to return after only 15 days. Bautista returned from another stint on the DL just over two weeks ago. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Sanchez to get first crack at Broncos starting job

Mark Sanchez will be the starting quarterback for the Broncos' preseason opener in Chicago on Thursday night.

Coach Gary Kubiak on Wednesday gave Sanchez the start over Trevor Siemian, who is listed as the co-No. 1 quarterback on the team's depth chart. The Broncos plan to have Sanchez play the first quarter and Siemian play the second.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Veteran ESPN presenter Saunders passes away

Canadian-born ESPN sportscaster John Saunders, who has hosted "The Sports Reporters" for the last 15 years, has died, the network announced Wednesday. He was 61.

Saunders joined ESPN in 1986. He did play-by-play on various sports, hosted Stanley Cup Final and World Series coverage. A cause of death was not announced.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A-Rod in as Yanks win

Benched from the starting lineup once again as his finale approaches, Alex Rodriguez pinch hit and flied out in the seventh inning of the New York Yankees' game at Boston on Wednesday night. The Yankees did score in the seventh — and the eighth — to come back for a 9-4 victory.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Superstars of the sidelines

PREMIER LEAGUE

Pounds bring top managers to English clubs



New Chelsea manager Antonio Conte, left, and second-year Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp bring excitement to English technical areas. JAE C. HONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Awash with more cash and global appeal than ever before, the English Premier League is still struggling to lure or retain the elite players in world football like Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo and Luis Suarez.

For the moment, the Galacticos are the managers.

The era of the super-coach has arrived in England's top division. Pep Guardiola, Jose Mourinho, Arsene Wenger, Antonio Conte and Jurgen Klopp make up possibly the most outstanding group of managers seen in this country at one time.

It means some huge reputations are going to take a battering during a highly anticipated campaign with no obvious title favourite and with predictions warped by Leicester's improbable surge to the championship last season.

"It's a world championship of managers," said Wenger, the 66-year-old Arsenal manager.

For drama, it may pay to check out the coaches' technical area as much as the field of play. No more so than when Mourinho and Guardiola renew their rivalry as the new managers of Manchester United and Manchester City, respectively.

The Manchester clubs have hogged the limelight this off-season due to the coaching arrivals and their spending in the transfer market that reached $400 million.

Of course, the bookies can get it wrong. Take last season, for example.

Leicester started out as a 5,000-1 shot to win the league delivering one of the biggest underdog triumphs in any sport ever. Chelsea started out as defending champion and favourite, and limped home in 10th in the worst Premier League title defence ever seen.

This time round, City, United, Chelsea, Arsenal, Liverpool and Tottenham (in that order) are expected to be the main contenders. Leicester is still only the seventh favourite.

A record injection of TV money, split evenly between the 20 top-flight teams, is levelling out the Premier League. This is the first season of a new three-year broadcasting deal for domestic and international rights worth a record 8.3 billion pounds ($10.8 billion US) — 71 per cent above the previous deal — and clubs have used that windfall to spend around $1 billion.

The so-called lesser teams have no compulsion to sell their top players, given the cash they are raking in. There are unlikely to be many easy victories gained this season.

It might be time to redefine the parameters of the word "success" in England. Wenger has been criticized by some footballing romantics for saying that qualifying for the Champions League is tantamount to winning a trophy, but few will argue this season. Two or three big teams could easily finish outside the top four. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MORE SOCCER

PREMIER LEAGUE WEEK 1
SATURDAY
Leicester at Hull City
Swansea at Burnley
West Brom at Crystal Palace
Tottenham at Everton
Stoke at Middlesbrough
Watford at Southampton
Sunderland at Man City
SUNDAY
Man United at Bournemouth
Liverpool at Arsenal
MONDAY
West Ham at Chelsea

Wales' Williams leaving Swansea for Everton

Everton has moved quickly to replace centre back John Stones by signing Wales captain Ashley Williams from Swansea.

Everton announced the arrival of Williams on Wednesday, with the 31-year-old defender signing a three-year deal to end his eight-year spell at Swansea.

Williams said he was looking forward to playing under Everton manager Ronald Koeman.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NCAA FOOTBALL

Alabama to let DB Smith walk away, source says

Alabama has cleared the way for defensive back Maurice Smith to transfer within the Southeastern Conference, according to a person with knowledge of the decision.

Speaking on condition of anonymity Wednesday because the school hasn't disclosed the information, the person said Alabama has granted Smith's release. The Tuscaloosa News first reported the decision.

Smith will have to be granted a waiver from the SEC, which has restrictions on athletes transferring to league schools with less than two years of eligibility remaining, including graduate transfers. Smith graduated earlier this month.



Maurice Smith
GETTY IMAGES

He has been trying to follow former Alabama assistants Kirby Smart and Mel Tucker to Georgia but was blocked from moving to another SEC school.

A statement from the SEC said the league doesn't comment on such waiver requests but they are reviewed on an individual basis.

The requirements for granting of a waiver include that the athlete's athletic scholarship was not renewed.

After Wednesday's practice, head coach Nick Saban said Alabama had done everything it could "to allow the conference to make the decision about whatever they decide is in the best interest of the conference and the SEC rules relative to Maurice Smith."

"So that is past us now," Saban said. "It is beyond us. We don't really need to talk about that anymore."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECIPE Nicoise Pasta



PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI



Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

We took our favorite salad and married it with our kids' carb of choice.

Ready in 25 minutes
Prep time: 5 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 500 grams spaghetti
- 3 Tbsps olive oil
- 3 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1/2 cup black olives, pitted and roughly chopped
- 1 pint cherry tomatoes, roughly chopped
- 1/4 cup capers
- 2 x 5 oz tin of tuna, drained
- 3 or 4 leaves of fresh basil, torn into pieces
- 1/2 cup Parmesan, grated

Directions

1. Put a bit pot of well-salted water on to boil. Cook pasta according to package instructions. Just before you drain, remove 1 cup of cooking liquid and set aside.

2. In another large pot, warm up olive oil over medium heat. Toss in garlic, tomatoes, olives and capers. Stir and let the garlic cook for a couple of minutes. Add the tuna and break it up a bit, not too much.

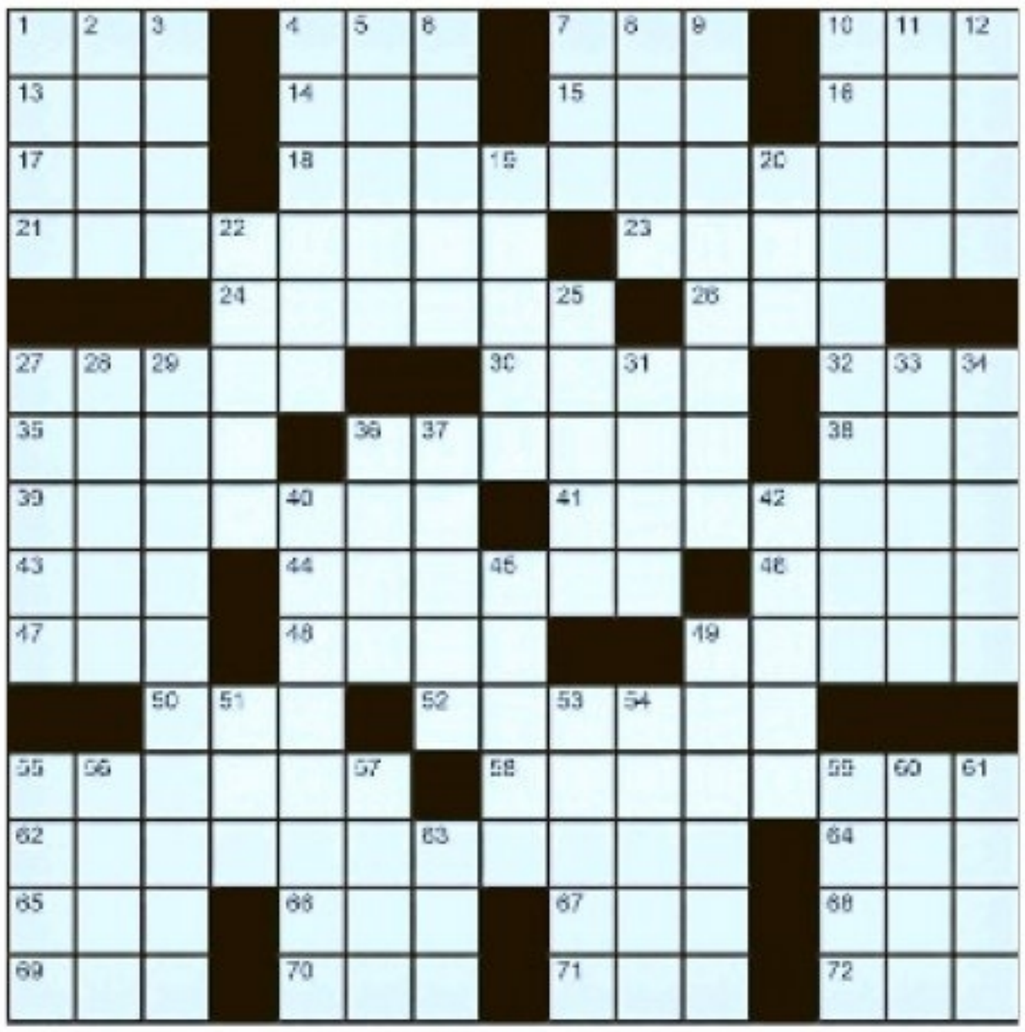
3. Add the cooked pasta and toss together until the pasta is well-coated and the rest of the ingredients are spread throughout. Pour in your cooking liquid bit by bit until the pasta loosens up.

4. Serve with a topping of grated Parmesan and fresh basil.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. RIO 2016: Get gold
4. Computer co.
7. House-coolers, briefly
10. "Awesome!"
13. 'Fluor' suffix
14. U.S. firearms org.
15. Plant
16. 'Depart' suffix
17. Modern: German
18. RIO 2016: Water event, Women's __ __ (K1) Slalom
21. RIO 2016: Speed it up!: 2 wds.
23. Hanson song
24. Montreal 'lemon'
26. Might
27. Fasten, in a way: 2 wds.
30. Quasi
32. Beatles adjective
35. Alphabetic sequence
36. Northwest Territories/Nunavut river
38. __ Red apples
39. RIO 2016: Canada, for one
41. RIO 2016: Greats of any Olympics
43. 17th letter's spelling
44. Articulates again
46. RIO 2016: MLI is its IOC code
47. Jr.s' dads
48. Get from ___ (Advance slightly)
49. Shenanigans
50. "That's waaay over-sharing!"
52. Plays, untrained puppy style: 2 wds.
55. RIO 2016: San __ (SMR is its IOC code)
58. RIO 2016: Artsy maneuvers discipline in #29-Down
62. RIO 2016: Reward for ancient Olympians: 2 wds.
64. Tea type
65. Music honour, e.g.
66. Irish actor Stephen
67. Actor, Daniel __ Kim
68. Him opposite
69. Hosiery hue
70. Compass dir.
71. Wee question follower
72. Hankering

DOWN
1. RIO 2016: Victory goddess Nike's one-of-two
2. 'Thought'-meaning prefix
3. Quebec 'nine'
4. Does cartooning work: 2 wds.
5. Hollywood's Benjamin
6. Singer/guitarist John
7. Get permission
8. 'Micro' ender
9. RIO 2016: Olympic sport
10. RIO 2016: 'Sevens' team sport event scheduled for the Men today, August 11th: 2 wds.
11. Mr. Guthrie
12. Meaningful
19. Came about
20. Q. "Is '__' _ way to abbreviate Santa Fe's state?" A. "Yes."
22. Squash variety
25. Ms. Furtado
27. Tick __ (Clock noises)
28. Q. "Shall __ you a glass?" ...asked the sommelier
29. RIO 2016: Olympic sport which is a 'mane' event
31. Classic comedian Mr. Howard's
33. Befuddle
34. Foundation
36. Old shipping weight allowance
37. Green tea variety
40. RIO 2016: Athlete aiders
42. Gives off
45. RIO 2016: Respect the rules
49. Does dishes
51. 1004 in ancient Rome
53. Milan-based fashion house
54. ___ example
55. Castle's surrounder
56. __ mater
57. Is beholden
59. RIO 2016: Like a sore-muscles athlete
60. Clarified butter
61. Garner
63. "Norma __" (1979)

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Steer clear of propagandist discussions regarding religion, politics and racial issues. This is a poor day for important ideas; someone might trick you or even deceive you.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Postpone important decisions about inheritances, shared property, wills, taxes and debt. Today is a poor day to discuss these matters or to act on them.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Discussions with others might depress or confuse you. This is not your fault. This is par for the course today. Just coast and agree to nothing important.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Don't let someone in authority shoot you down today or discourage you. You don't have all the facts; in fact, you might be seriously misled! Use caution.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
For some reason, children might be an increased responsibility today. In addition, romance is depressing and confusing. Just for today. Oy!

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Domestic discussions might discourage you because an older family member is critical. This is a temporary setback. Don't let it get you down.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Do not give in to negative thinking today. In part, you are confused about something. Someone might have misrepresented the truth to you.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is a poor day for important financial decisions because you could make a mistake. You don't have the confidence and the right frame of mind to do your best. Forewarned is forearmed.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Conversations with others are difficult today, because they are confusing, discouraging or both! Knowing this ahead of time, take a step backward. Just coast.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Something going on behind the scenes might discourage you. You might be deceived as well! Trust no one today.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Someone older might rain on your parade today. Reserve judgment about anything important until tomorrow, because you are not in the right frame of mind today.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Don't ask for permission or approval from bosses, parents and VIPs today because these conversations will not go well. If you want anything, the response will likely be, "Talk to the hand."

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

	9		6		4	3		
	7				2		6	9
4								
3	8							6
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		8	5		3		1	

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

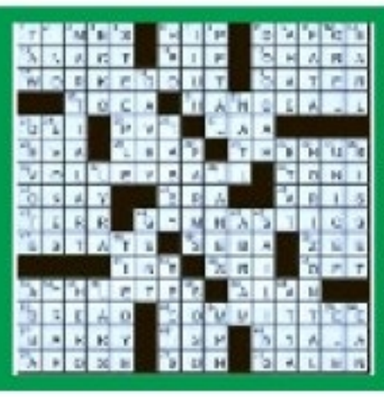
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2	7	6	4	5	1	8	9	3
5	9	1	3	8	7	2	6	4
3	4	8	6	9	2	5	7	1
6	3	5	2	4	9	1	8	7
9	8	7	1	3	5	4	2	6
4	1	2	7	6	8	3	5	9
8	6	9	5	1	4	7	3	2
1	2	3	8	7	6	9	4	5
7	5	4	9	2	3	6	1	8

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